

## Reintegration and Transitions Champions Group: Minutes

<b>Meeting Title</b>		<b>Meeting Date</b>
Reintegration and Transitions		April 23, 2014
<b>Participants:</b> Jane Kelly (Moray) (Chair), David Orr (CYCJ), Hayley Farrell (Plan B), Robert Clark (Good Shepherd), Jim Crawford (St. Mary's Kenmure), Hazel Mehta (SPS), Nancy Loucks (Families Outside), Emma Hogg (Health Improvement Scotland), Yvonne Robson (CYCJ), Tina Everington (Health Improvement Scotland), Gill Robinson (SPS), Alison Melville (SG)		
<b>In Attendance:</b> N/A		
<b>Apologies:</b> Steve Collins (Glasgow), Angela McLeod (Police Scotland) Greg Hiddleston (SDS),		
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
1	<b>Membership Update</b>	JK gave all members the opportunity to introduce themselves and welcomed in particular those attending for the first time.
<b>Actions/Discussions</b> 1. N/A		
<b>By Whom</b> 1. N/A		<b>Status</b>
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
2	<b>Minutes/Matters Arising</b>	<p>One minor amendment was made to the previous minute under Point 6 (Plan B Extension Period). NL made it clear that she had been providing information to the group about Plan B's status but was not speaking specifically on behalf of Plan B. It was agreed that the minute would be reworded to reflect this distinction.</p> <p><b>The minute from the meeting of January 21, 2014 was then agreed.</b></p> <p>In relation to matters arising from the Actions Points recorded in the previous minute:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DO confirmed that Fiona Dyer is now on maternity leave and Stephanie Smith (researcher) has recently left the centre. However the research in relation to the experiences of young men in HMYOI Polmont is on track. One draft paper of findings for Fife and Forth Valley has been completed and will be available through the CYCJ</li> </ul>

		<p>website once it has been signed off by the commissioning local authority. Meanwhile, the full report concerning young people from across Scotland is being drafted. Findings from the work will continue to be disseminated via conferences and through papers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DO indicated that the postponement of the Youth Justice Strategic Group from early 2014 until April 9, 2014, meant that revisions to the Action Plan had been delayed. JK noted that having attended the YJSG, useful feedback was provided about the need to make the Action Plan more “outcomes-focused”. DO highlighted that refreshing the content of the Action Plan in accordance with this feedback and contributions from Group Members is a substantive item on the agenda.</li> <li>• In relation to the GIRFEC plan from North Ayrshire, DO confirmed that Andrew Keir’s offer to attend a meeting was welcomed but that the survey recently circulated to Whole System Approach (WSA) Leads (and a substantive agenda item) has specific questions relating to the Child’s Plan which prove sufficient. AM noted that the <i>Proposal for the development of guidance to support the GIRFEC provisions in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014</i> has just been published and she would provide DO with further information in order that it can be distributed to the group.</li> <li>• NL confirmed that she and Johnny Bradford had made contributions at the Judicial Institute event in March and she is scheduled to return in October 2014. She noted that the</li> </ul>
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		<p>allocated time for input was brief.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AM confirmed that she had raised with the GIRFEC Team the issue of the Child's Plan being included in Criminal Justice Social Work Reports (CJSWRs). There is no stipulation that the Child's Plan should be in a CJSWR and some further concerns have been raised about the status of the CJSWR as a public document and what might be the implications of including a Child's Plan. AM indicated that SG Care and Justice staff are due to meet with COPFS staff next week to discuss this issue and other related matters others. The issue of amendments to the CJSWR template has also been raised by AM with SG colleagues and by JK through ADSW. It is intended that Margaret Anderson (ADSW – Convenor of the Criminal Justice Standing Committee) and Mike Burns (ADSW – Convenor of the Children and Families Standing Committee) will establish a working group to examine some of these issues relating to the overlap of the GIRFEC agenda and justice issues.</li> <li>• JK noted that although she had made links with ADSW she is not a member and that this is a gap in terms of ADSW representation on the Reintegration and Transitions Champions Group. DO highlighted the pending transition of ADSW to Social Work Scotland which may lead to some change but agreed with JK to endeavour to identify an ADSW representative in the interim period.</li> <li>• DO confirmed that he had been able to liaise with Justice Analytical Services (JAS) who were in a position to provide some further information about young people detained in HMYOI Polmont and the nature of their</li> </ul>
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		<p>sentences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AM clarified that the Transition and Communication Group scheduled to take place on April 8, 2014 was cancelled at short notice due to the unavailability of several representatives. Mary Amos is endeavouring to reschedule this meeting. The group last met in September 2013.</li> <li>• HF confirmed that Plan B work is coming to an end in May 2014 and the focus of work in recent weeks has been to assist Personal Officers in HMYOI Polmont in their use of the Prisoner Workbook.</li> <li>• NL agreed to send DO information about the conference on May 16 which will be circulated as soon as possible given the pending closure of applications.</li> <li>• GR confirmed that the SPS report had been circulated to group members as agreed.</li> </ul>
<b>Actions/Discussions</b>		
1. N/A		
<b>By Whom</b>		<b>Status</b>
1. N/A		
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
3	<b>Feedback from and to Strategic Group</b>	JK provided a fuller summary of the discussions which took place at the YJSG. She noted that the Action Plan to March 2014 was reviewed by members. The feedback received was that members want to know how priorities are identified, how outcomes are measures and how the Champions Group is affecting practice. JK and AM also noted that the SG is currently redrafting the national youth justice strategy which may affect future direction. Finally JK highlighted several of the key issues arising at the group including the challenges

		stemming from the interface between youth and adult systems; cross-border case transfers and the implementation of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
<b>Actions/Discussions</b> 1. N/A		
<b>By Whom</b> 1. N/A		<b>Status</b>
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
4	<b>Remit and Purpose of Group</b>	JK circulated the Reintegration and Transitions Champions Group Terms of Reference. Group members were of the view that role and remit of the group remains broadly appropriate. JK noted that this document can be revisited should there be any developments as a result of the redrafted youth justice strategy. EM highlighted the importance of clarity of remit and purpose in order to frame Action Plan deliverables appropriately.
<b>Actions/Discussions</b> 1. N/A		
<b>By Whom</b> 1. N/A		<b>Status</b>
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
5.	<b>Survey Update</b>	DO circulated to the group the raw data from the Reintegration and Transitions Questionnaire completed by WSA Leads and emphasised that some of the information may be useful in relation to shaping Action Plan deliverables for the forthcoming year. He clarified that 22 responses had been recorded to date and that he would produce a more accessible, short report with some of the key information and points for consideration to be sent to members and survey respondents in due course.  Discussion took place in relation to a variety of issues addressed in the survey including 72 hour reviews and the role of Plan B in supporting these to occur, the patchy nature of WSA implementation nationally, CJSWRs and inter-agency information sharing.
<b>Actions/Discussions</b> 1. DO to produce survey findings summary report.		

By Whom 1. DO		<b>Status</b> 1. To be prepared within a fortnight of meeting and circulated to members.
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
6	<b>Action Plan, Deliverables and Objective Setting</b>	<p>Group members discussed the content of the existing Action Plan deliverables at length and agreed to the removal of several actions owing to their completion or the fact that they were insufficiently “outcomes-focussed”. However it was recognised that a number of core issues remain relevant and ought to be reflected in the Action Plan in some fashion specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 72 hour reviews – How realistic are they and what is happening on the ground?</li> <li>• Whole System Approach (WSA) – What is the national picture at present in terms of WSA implementation and to what extent is Reintegration and Transitions captured in project plans?</li> <li>• Health – Distinguishing between Health Improvement (e.g. accessing gym facilities in the community post-release and healthy eating) and Care and Treatment.</li> <li>• HMP Grampian – The importance of ensuring that work with children and young people in that institution is consistent with best practice.</li> <li>• CJSWRs and the Child’s Plan.</li> <li>• Employability and Benefits</li> <li>• Prisoners’ Families</li> <li>• Housing, homelessness and accommodation.</li> </ul> <p>Some general observations were made during this detailed discussion about the Action Plan. AM undertook to liaise with WSA colleagues to find out more about the nature of information relating to Reintegration and Transitions</p>

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		<p>encompassed in project plans. EM emphasised that such requests for information must be purposeful i.e. once information is provided what, if anything, can members do with it to improve outcomes for young people? HM noted that the quarterly WSA meetings which previously took place have now ceased and it may be valuable to consider whether bringing key WSA stakeholders together on a more regular basis again would be valuable.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Action Plan Deliverables did not need to encompass specific points relating to the Throughcare Board nor the Transition and Communication Group. Both groups will continue to meet and useful/relevant information will be shared with the Champions Group as appropriate.</p> <p>The opening of HMP Grampian was noted as a significant development by all members. YR emphasised that it would be important to monitor whether a spike in custodial sentences occurs with the availability of a new institutional resource. GR confirmed that efforts are being made to ensure that service provision in HMP Grampian matches service provision in other institutions in which children and young people are detained.</p> <p>HM reiterated the importance of addressing more effectively the accommodation needs of young people leaving custody. YR referred to a joint local authority/voluntary sector/faith-based organisations initiative in the Scottish Borders at present in the area of housing for vulnerable young people that might be of interest.</p> <p>TE and EH provided an overview of their work in Health Improvement. EH agreed to liaise with colleagues on the national youth health improvement strategic leads group to consider who they might recommend as a possible Champions Group member to ensure that care and treatment issues are addressed satisfactorily. Members were of the view that it would be helpful if any such representative could have a Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS) background. TE then outlined relevant Health Improvement initiatives including the <i>Better health, better lives</i></p>
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		<p>for prisoners. It was agreed that TE will continue to attend the group in future.</p> <p>YR and HF highlighted the ongoing problems faced by young people leaving custody in relation to accessing state benefits and the impact of the “bedroom tax”.</p>
<p><b>Actions/Discussions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DO and JK to draft revised Action Plan to reflect members’ discussion and priorities.</li> <li>AM to liaise with SG colleagues in relation to WSA project plans.</li> <li>EH to liaise with NHS colleagues to identify appropriate NHS (CAMHS) representative for the group.</li> </ol>		
<p><b>By Whom</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DO/JK</li> <li>AM</li> <li>EH</li> </ol>		<p><b>Status</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be circulated within a fortnight.</li> <li>To be clarified within a fortnight.</li> <li>To provide an update following liaison with colleagues.</li> </ol>
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
7	<b>Consultancy Work/Interface</b>	<p>YR provided a brief summary of her consultancy role with the CYCJ and its dual focus on assessing the readiness of local authorities for the implementation of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and the transition of young people from youth to adult justice systems. She emphasised the value of linking with ADSW and securing representation on any working group examining these transition/interface issues.</p>
<p><b>Actions/Discussions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>YR to continue short-term consultancy work until September 2014.</li> </ol>		
<p><b>By Whom</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>YR</li> </ol>		<p><b>Status</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing.</li> </ol>
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
8.	<b>Agency Updates</b>	<p>HF reported that with the imminent cessation of Plan B’s work, staff members have no live cases and have been working on capacity building with SPS staff. She noted that meeting the 72 hour review expectations will be a challenge in the future. She also noted how complications with benefits arrangements are continuing to have a negative impact on outcomes for young people leaving custody who are placed on the Work Programme when better alternatives are available. JK and YR agreed to raise this issue with SG Justice contacts responsible for the</p>

		<p>Public Social Partnerships (PSPs) which receive Change Fund monies.</p> <p>JC and RC provided an update in relation to the secure estate and confirmed that the next meeting of the secure care steering group will take place on June 30, 2014. JC highlighted that funding has been secured for STORM training for a cross-section of secure care staff members across Scotland and that this will commence in May/June 2014. Staff members are also getting the opportunity to secure qualifications in Mental Health First Aid. With respect to cross-border issues, JC suggested that this has not been a major problem in the secure estate.</p> <p>HM confirmed that her role has changed but she retains the WSA brief. She also wished to acknowledge the contribution of Plan B as their work draws to a close.</p> <p>NL spoke briefly in relation to research recently conducted by Dr. Margaret Malloch for Families Outside in relation to families' experience when a young person is detained in secure accommodation.</p> <p>TE spoke about the development of the Family Help Hub at HMPYOI Cornton Vale and plans for the development of a similar resource at HMYOI Polmont. Both TE and EH also spoke about various NHS and health improvement initiatives which cut across the health agenda and the justice agenda.</p> <p>GR confirmed that the draft paper on young people is nearing final sign off. She also provided an update concerning a Professional Development Programme for all SPS staff working with young people and related practice standards.</p> <p>AM provided an update in relation to custody and secure figures for young people under 18 (accurate as of Friday, April 19, 2014):</p> <p><b>Custody: 68</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HMYOI Polmont: 57 young men</li> <li>• HMYOI Cornton Vale: 2 females</li> <li>• HMPYOI Grampian: 8 males/1 female</li> </ul>
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		<b>Secure: 83 (7 vacancies)</b>
<b>Actions/Discussions</b> 1. JK and YR to contact SG Justice colleagues re: benefits issues.		
<b>By Whom</b> 1. JK/YR		<b>Status</b> 1. Update to next RTCG.
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
9.	<b>Throughcare Board Update</b>	A brief update was provided in relation to the Throughcare Board meeting of March 17, 2014. Discussion focussed specifically on the co-ordination of voluntary sector funding bids for justice projects and HM confirmed that The Robertson Trust is taking a lead on this matter. In part this is in an effort to ensure that any funded projects have been designed with the consent and agreement of all key stakeholders. HM also reiterated the importance of ensuring that housing, homelessness and accommodation continue to receive attention.
<b>Actions/Discussions</b> 1. N/A		
<b>By Whom</b> 1. N/A		<b>Status</b>
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
10.	<b>Feedback from ADSW</b>	JK noted that this had already been covered earlier on the agenda.
<b>Actions/Discussions</b> 1. N/A		
<b>By Whom</b> 1. N/A		<b>Status</b>
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
11	<b>Practitioners' Group</b>	JK noted that this had already been covered earlier on the agenda.
<b>Actions/Discussions</b> 1. N/A		
<b>By Whom</b> 1. N/A		<b>Status</b>
	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes of Discussion</b>
12.	<b>AOCB</b>	N/A. Next meeting date to be confirmed in due course.