**REINTEGRATION AND TRANSITIONS CHAMPIONS GROUP**

**21st of January, 10am-12:30pm**

**Lord Hope Building Room 633**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Present:**  **Fiona Dyer**  **Gill Robinson**  **Claire McDermott**  **Steve Collins**  **Jane Kelly**  **Nancy Loucks**  **Johnny Bradford**  **Joe Bryers**  **Alison Melville**  **David Orr**  **Apologies**  **Hazel Mehta**  **Helen Jones**  **Greg Hiddleston**  **Minutes**  **Jane Scullion** | **CYCJ (chair)**  **Scottish Prison Service**  **Scottish Government**  **Glasgow City Council**  **Moray Council**  **Families Outside**  **Action for Children**  **Action for Children**  **Scottish Government**  **CYCJ**  **Scottish Prison Service**  **Barnardos**  **Skills Development Scotland** |

**Previous Minute/Actions**

FD discussed the briefing paper for Reintegration and Transitions and agreed to re-send it to the group for comments. The paper will be published soon.

FD provided an update on research in Polmont. The researchers looked at 140 files on young people, which have now been populated in the database. Trends have been observed: for example, most young people were excluded from primary school and no ‘child plans’ were in any file. Reports will be published in the Spring.

**Action**

FD and researcher Stephanie Smith will write an article and briefing paper on their research findings and present this at the ‘Reimagining Youth Justice Conference’ in London in London.

**2.New chair for group/membership**

Jane Kelly from Moray Council will assume the role of Chair at the next Reintegration and Transitions meeting in April. David Orr will take on the Secretariat function for the CYCJ.

**3. Action Plan up-date/planning for 2014**

FD asked the group to discuss the objectives listed on the group action plan. The Scottish Government has asked for them to be more outcome focused. NL commented that the objectives need to be more measurable and questioned how the group measures improvement. The group agreed that objectives need to be re-written and suggestions were given.

The group highlighted issues relating to the Child’s Plan. Evidence from practice appears to suggest that Criminal Justice Social Work Reports (CJSWRs) are not being submitted with an accompanying GIRFEC plan. The group suggested that the CJSWR template needs to be changed. It was agreed that there should be some reference on the template to the GIRFEC plan: for example, a tick box with “GIRFEC plan included-Yes or No”. CM agreed to raise this through Scottish Government channels. JB and NL confirmed that they are due to attend an event organised by the Judicial Institute in the coming weeks at which there will be an opportunity to brief the Judiciary in relation to young people and females in the criminal justice system. In the event that the CYCJ is not represented at the meeting, JB and NL confirmed they would be happy to raise the issues stemming from the group’s discussions. JK also undertook to raise the issue about content of Court reports through ADSW.

Action

FD and DO will re-draft action plan with new objectives that are outcome-focused and send to the group for comment.

CM to chase up use of the GIRFEC plan in North Ayrshire-to be distributed to the group.

JB and NL to raise at Judicial Institute event relevant Reintegration and Transitions issues

JK will raise the issue at ADSW.

CM and AM will look at the legislation and get clarification from the GIRFEC team regarding GIRFEC plans going to court.

Item to be continued in the next Reintegration meeting.

**4. Scottish Government data/up-date/Justice**

CM provided a break-down of secure and prison numbers. Currently in HMYOI Polmont there are: convicted male (33), on remand male (18), awaiting sentence male (7). There are no girls under the age of 18 detained in HMYOI Cornton Vale.

In secure accommodation at present 60 young people are detained and there are 18 vacancies. It was noted that the number of remand prisoners in HMYOI Polmont currently correlates exactly with the number of vacant beds in the secure estate. CM stated that a substantive, evidence-based proposal making the case for the excess capacity in the secure estate to be utilised as a Remand Facility has yet to be made.

DO asked CM to give more information on statistics concerning the prison population, specifically, of those YP sentenced. DO asked how many are serving short (less than 4 years) and how many are serving long-term (more than 4 years) sentences? How many will be subject to Supervised Release Orders (SROs) on release? And how many are subject to Extended Sentences and will be released on Parole or Non-Parole Licence?

Action

CM will provide DO with information on the length of sentences.

**5. Practitioners Group**

Mary Amos from the Scottish Government will chair this group in place of Julie Robb. FD will meet with Mary to discuss this.

Action

FD to meet with MA

**6. Plan B Extension Period**

It was noted that Plan B has funding until the end of March, but this will be extended. NL drew attention to a training event on trauma informed practice on the 24th and 25th of March. FD agreed that there is a need for trauma informed practice.

Action

NL will send out information about the European Conference on the 16th of May, which will be held in Edinburgh.

**7. SPS Summary**

GR told the group that they can go ahead with plans for a strategy for young people in custody. GR also discussed the relevance of the organisational review that was launched at the SPS Conference; there will be a big agenda for development of staff.

FD asked GR for the next review date. GR indicated that it would be in March/April time. She will keep the group updated.

Action

GR to circulate a summary of the SPS Review Summary Report and a draft of the Young People paper to the group.

**8. Stakeholder discussion**

FD asked the group to complete a survey for the Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice. FD explained that the views of the Centre’s stakeholders will inform the direction of CYCJ over the next three years. The aim is to find out how CYCJ can best bridge gaps between research, practice and policy.

**9.AOCB**

**Group membership:**

FD will ask Angela MacLeod to send a representative from Police Scotland.

NL will ask Tina Everington to join the Reintegration group as the Health representative.

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 23rd of April, 2-4pm, Lord Hope Building**