

A shared SPS and Third Sector statement: the distinctive role of the third sector in Community Custody Units (CCUs) for women in Scotland

SPS and the Third Sector are agreed that the third sector has a distinctive contribution to make in putting women at the centre of design, delivery and improvement of services for women in Community Custody Units (CCUs) in Scotland. SPS and the Third Sector are committed to working together effectively and with statutory services and stakeholders throughout a woman's journey through custody and CCUs and in support of their recovery and reintegration to Scotland's communities, recognising that different women are at different stages and need different things.

SPS and the Third sector will work together to continually improve partnership working with the third sector and alongside statutory justice services and other public services to maximise a joined-up approach to resourcing, planning and services for women within CCUs, to connect to services in local communities and to continually keep pace with evidence of needs and risks and responsibility. In particular, SPS and Third Sector are agreed that they should work together to continually improve coordination, awareness and access to services, removing complexity as much as possible and preventing repetitive story telling by women in and leaving CCUs.

The third sector have a unique contribution to make to Justice due to their holistic approach and abilities to make best use of the interface between community services and prisons to positively impact on the outcomes for women.

The distinctive role of the third sector in Community Custody Units for women in Scotland

The distinctive role of the third sector working with CCUs is as follows:

- Feeding into, informing and leading key parts of the case management plan as women progress through the estate
- Engagement at the point of transition to the CCU, working alongside women in and leaving CCUs, Personal Officers, facilitating access to third and public services in the community (e.g. recovery communities, children services)
- Providing feedback to Risk Management through RMT / case management processes
- Relationship building and engagement by Third Sector and SPS/CCU 'Single Points of Contact' - SPOC
- Engagement, attendance with key services, support prior to release, working with Personal Officers
- Deliver intensity of support, coordination as agreed between SPS/CCU and Third Sector and women in and leaving CCUs through the Case Management Board, as part of a wider trauma informed, person centred approach
- Linking, utilising third sector and community assets e.g. voluntary services close to the CCU and in the woman's home community (at the point of entry to prison, on exit or both)

- Support and information for the children and families of women living in CCUs

SPS Support for this distinctive role

SPS will support the Third Sector to deliver this role through:

- Supporting third sector delivery in CCUs through agreed CCU SPOC arrangements and the shared 'partnership agreement' process
- Engaging third Sector in case management processes, aligning with other services
- Sharing personalised data with Third Sector at CCU transition and/or PSP 'throughcare support'

Engagement on CCUs/women strategy

The shared arrangements agreed for SPS and Third Sector engagement on CCUs/women strategy are as follows:

- National level – through CJVSF engagement, national women's strategy, SHINE
- CCU level – through SPOC and local group, adopting partnership agreements process
- CCU level - linking with local strategic partners, including the Third Sector Interface closest to the CCU, to effectively engage with the third sector

Partnership review arrangements

SPS and Third Sector (CJVSF, SHINE, Dundee and Glasgow working group representatives) will convene every six months to review the delivery of this agreement. Agenda setting will be co-developed.

Co-signatories



Sue Brookes

On behalf of SPS

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Tracey McFall

On behalf of Third Sector representatives