

TAYSIDE COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY

Meeting: Tayside Community Justice Authority – 16 September 2014

Title: Criminal Justice Social Work Services Expenditure Monitoring
2014/15 (Section 27)

Report by: Marjory Stewart, Treasurer

Report No: TCJA219-2014

Abstract – This report notes the projected financial outturn for the Tayside Community Justice Criminal Justice Social Work Services Budget for 2014/15 based on expenditure incurred to 30 June 2014.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Community Justice Authority (CJA):

- notes that the 2014/15 Criminal Justice Social Work Services budget is currently showing a projected outturn at £12,448 (0.2%) below the grant allocation.
- notes also the relatively small compensating variances within the following projects: Arrest Referral, Forensic Social Worker and CPO – Community Service
- notes that all other projects are currently showing a projected spend on budget

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Scottish Government informed the Chief Officer in December 2013 that the Criminal Justice Social Work services grant allocation was £8,071,394 and the CJA agreed the 2014/15 Criminal Justice Social Work Services Budget at its meeting on 18th March 2014.
- 2.2 Members will recall the important changes in the funding system that were introduced in 2013/14 and which were aimed at providing CJAs with

increased flexibility in how they use their Section 27 funding allocation. The key changes introduced were:

- there is no longer a distinction made between core and non-core funding at the point of allocation from the Scottish Government
- CJAs are no longer required to seek approval from the Scottish Government to vire funds between budget heads
- CJAs are free to allocate funds as they see fit across their CJA area in accordance with their Area Plan and in the way they see as most appropriate to fulfil their statutory obligations and to reduce reoffending

2.3 Despite the move to a single line allocation, it is still necessary for the CJA to retain the previous core and non-core detailed budget headings for the purposes of budget preparation, budget monitoring and final accounts preparation.

2.4 As part of the Scottish Government's financial regulations governing the Criminal Justice Social Work grant, each CJA is required to monitor spend against budget at all stages of the financial year and to submit finance monitoring returns as requested. This involves providing information regarding the expenditure to date and estimating expenditure for the full financial year for each of the services provided. Monitoring information is prepared by each of the constituent local authorities within the CJA and consolidated by the CJA Treasurer.

3. FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The breakdown of the total allocation, the expenditure to 30 June 2014 and the projected outturn position for the Criminal Justice Social Work services budget are shown in Appendix 1. In total, the projected outturn position is £12,448 (0.2%) below the grant allocation. This is due to a projected underspend against the additional funding that has been made available for Services for Women Offenders in Angus and Dundee. This funding cannot be carried forward or used for other Section 27 projects.

3.2 Further, there are relatively small projected underspends in two other projects: Arrest Referral (£35,620) and Forensic Social Worker (£14,010). These underspends have been re-allocated to CPO – Community Service in order to show a full take-up of the overall Section 27 grant available.

3.3 Although the projected outturn position is broadly in line with the revised grant allocation in total, it does not follow that the grant allocation is sufficient to cover the full cost of running Criminal Justice Services in the

Tayside area. Indeed, it is understood that for a number of years now the Constituent Local Authorities have been funding a proportion of their Criminal Justice Services from their mainstream budgets.

4. PROPOSAL(S)

It is proposed that the CJA notes the projected outturn position.

5. CONSULTATION

The CJA Chief Officer and the constituent Local Authorities have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

6. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The CJA is required to allocate funding to Criminal Justice Social Work Services in order that these services can be delivered in line with National Objectives and Standards for Social Work Services in the Criminal Justice System, with the National Strategy for the Management of Offenders, and with the Tayside CJA Area Plan.

7. CONCLUSION

The 2014/15 Criminal Justice Social Work Services budget is currently showing a projected outturn at £12,448 (0.2%) below the revised grant allocation. The Treasurer and Chief Officer will continue to monitor this budget throughout the remainder of this financial year and take action as necessary.

Marjory Stewart
Treasurer
Tayside Community Justice Authority
Tel No (01382) 433555

APPENDIX 1

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK SERVICES – QUARTERLY MONITORING TO 30 JUNE 2014				
Service	2014/15 Allocation (£)	Expenditure to 30 June 2014 (£)	Projected Outturn to 31 March 2015 (£)	Over / (Under) Spend (£)
Core				
CPO - Probation	807,001	200,291	807,001	-
CPO - Community Service	1,671,529	399,668	1,721,159	49,630
CPO - Supervised Attendance Orders	518,387	120,292	518,387	-
Criminal Justice Social Work Reports	1,478,874	348,032	1,478,874	-
Throughcare	538,293	132,161	538,293	-
Home Detention Curfews	24,783	5,928	24,783	-
Diversion	8,909	2,287	8,909	-
Bail	147,816	35,553	147,816	-
Court Services	342,730	83,205	342,730	-
DTTO	542,585	97,982	542,585	-
Total Core	6,080,907	1,425,399	6,130,537	49,630
Non Core				
Centrally Initiated Funding				
Arrest Referral	204,752	-	169,132	(35,620)
Delivery of the National Training Programme	20,000	3,261	20,000	-
CSOGP / Tay Project	274,338	54,651	274,338	-
Fiscal Work Orders	37,500	12,500	37,500	-
MAPPA	134,226	29,838	134,226	-
Locally Initiated Funding				
Supported Accommodation (incl East Port House)	715,474	188,581	715,474	-
Fergus Programme	28,085	7,022	28,085	-
APEX Employment	104,876	24,691	104,876	-
AFC Intensive Probation	104,383	18,702	104,383	-
Forensic Social Worker	44,871	950	30,861	(14,010)
Other Non Core Funding				
Structured Deferred Sentence	66,020	27,875	66,020	-
Women Offender Services	255,962	51,957	243,514	(12,448)
Total Non Core	1,990,487	420,028	1,928,409	(62,078)
Overall Total	8,071,394	1,845,427	8,058,946	(12,448)

Note: the following items, included separately in the approved 2014/15 budget, have now been transferred to the relevant budget heads for the purposes of in-year monitoring and reporting:

Transfer of court business (Cupar to Dundee)	£ 74,142
Correction of previous courts data error	£ (98,174)
Additional funding for CPOs	£ 10,877