

Tackling Crime and Delivering Justice in Scotland: The Scottish Government's long term vision

Input - Graham Goulden, Member, LEAP Scotland (Law Enforcement Action Partnership)

Policing, Prevention and Rehabilitation

Leap Scotland are retired officers coming together to influence future drugs strategy in Scotland.

- ACE movement has captured the nation but this needs to go further. Prevention is key! Where does policing fit with this?
- Feels policing can sometimes contribute to more negative than positives



- Still police officers who think 'they know best' and 'tough enforcement is best' and ridicule those who show compassion
- 'Policing should aim to spark curiosity'
- Work with VRU is crucial on areas such as poverty, homelessness, hopelessness, harmful notions of masculinity and trauma.
- Police Scotland need to prioritise:
 - Maintain focus on trauma
 - Policing isn't the only player
 - Domestic abuse
 - The war on drugs
- Trauma isn't just about children – let's start using the right narrative around adults

Input from – Cabinet Secretary for Justice - Humza Yousaf

Keynote Address

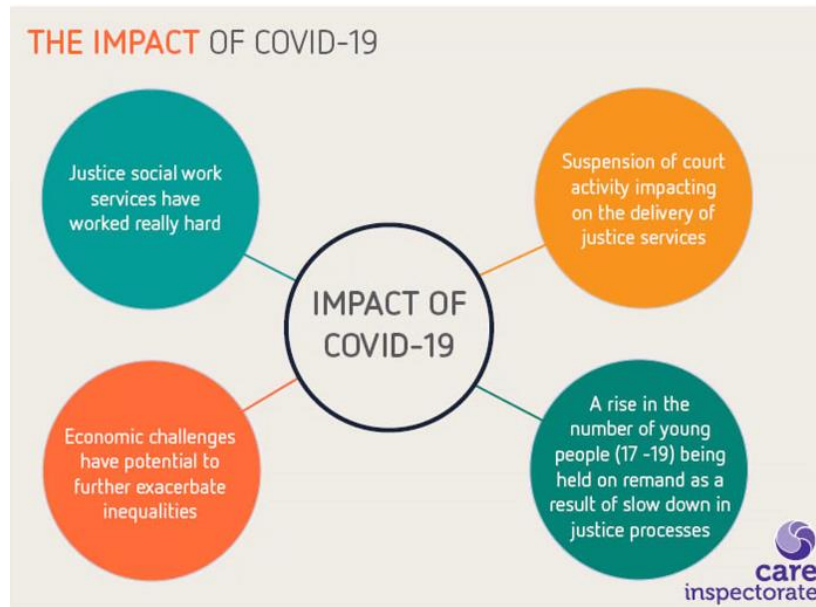
- If you are not looking at the underlying causes then you will never tackle crime and deliver justice.
- Covid-19 has affected all – court dates affected and accused, witnesses. Scottish Government has committed £50 million to help rebuild the justice system.
- Alternatives to custody are very important. Our great shame is our prison population. Why is our remand population so high? Why are we so punitive??
- Hates the paradigm – not about a soft or hard justice system – but a smart justice system
- Made strides with PASS but this comes with political pressure.
- Need to continue to look at public health approach and take society with us.

Input from - Jane Kelly, Service Manager (Strategic Scrutiny - Justice), Care Inspectorate

The Changing Nature of Offending - whose responsibility is prevention?

- For majority there are better options than prison.
- We need a culture shift to more people diverted from prosecution
- 'Justice delayed is justice denied'. Bad for everyone.





Input - Karyn McCluskey, Chief Executive, Community Justice Scotland

Delivering Multi-Agency Justice Policy

- Since Covid-19 – Progression = Housing in homeless, more hospital beds, more flexible work patterns. Regression = criminal justice system delay, prisoners in cells for 20 hours a day, children indefinitely in remand
- We need a paradigm shift – from criminal justice to prevention. We don't need more legislation and policy – we need action.
- “If we are building prisons for the prison population in 20 years' time, it means we are failing the kids in Primary 1 today”.
- Prevention is not a low cost option. Joe Biden ‘Look at your budget and it will show you your priority’. Prevention and Community Justice still vastly underfunded compared to other areas.
- What do we do about reducing prison space? Denmark build small prisons. Prisons with nurses/older persons services. It is expensive not to just build big boxes.
- Trauma training going on is transformational but we need it to increase and expand into many other areas.

Input - Martin Dorchester, Chief Executive, Includem

Making Restorative Justice a Reality

- Restorative justice looks forwards as much as it looks backwards
- Not about establishing guilt
- Majority of offenders willing to take part
- Reduces reoffending by 14%
- Lack of understanding about RJ across public
- RJ mostly youth driven – why?
- GDPR is making it difficult to have an effective approach
- RJ as a very viable alternative to prosecution but still seen as ‘less serious’
- If this is the right thing to do – why are we not funding properly?