

# Voluntary Throughcare and Mentoring

## Cascade Communication

October - December 2023



[CJS Commissioning homepage](#)

### POINTS OF INTEREST

**\*New Research Published\***

Demographics analysis, Literature review and Research summary paper have now been published and are available to view on [CJS Website](#).

Following submission of CJS' recommendation on the future of voluntary throughcare and mentoring on 22 September, Scottish Government justice colleagues have advised that a decision on the preferred option is unlikely to be available before the new year however, an update will be provided as soon as possible on any progress.



### GOVERNANCE AND STAFF TEAM

The Voluntary throughcare and Mentoring Project Management Committee (PMC) and the Project Steering Committee (PSC) continue to meet to discuss the project. The last meeting of the PMC was held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 and the last PSC meeting was held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

A Project Risk and Scenario Planning Group (PRSPG) supports management and review of project risk.

Claire Penny returned to her substantive post as Head of Commissioning on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Hannah Dickson will continue to lead on the Voluntary Throughcare Commissioning project until April 2025. The team welcomed Simona Hristova, CJS Research officer on a short-term secondment to the team.

### THROUGHCHARE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

Community Justice Scotland submitted the Options Appraisal and recommendation to Scottish Government on 22 September for onward consideration by the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs for final decision. The project team have now been advised that a decision on the preferred option is unlikely to be available before the new year however, an update will be provided as soon as possible on any progress. Following final decision the new 'go-live' date for any service(s) commencing will be April 2025.

### PLANNING

Confirmation of the 1 year extension to the project has necessitated a detailed project replan and development of a resources plan which is being supported by a Project Management consultant. The replan got underway in December and will continue following the Christmas break. Indicative key dates for the rest of the project will be shared when available.



# Voluntary Throughcare and Mentoring

## Cascade Communication

October - December 2023



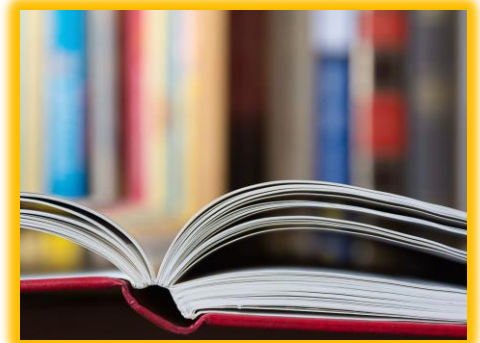
### RESEARCH

The demographics analysis has been published on the [Commissioning learning hub](#).

The literature review of resettlement and reintegration has been published on the [Commissioning learning hub](#).

The Research summary is a synthesis of all the research undertaken as part of the voluntary throughcare and mentoring recommissioning project. has been published on the [Commissioning learning hub](#).

Look out in the new year for some blog posts from the team for some of the work which underpins the options appraisal including the policy context, national/local service arrangements and process mapping.



### NEXT STEPS

#### Immediate focus

- Work up grant process and documentation in advance of Ministerial decision in case required.
- Project replan and resources plan.
- Impact assessment finalisation.
- Progress mitigation strategies identified in the risk register to reduce/maintain identified risks .

#### Medium term focus

- Continue to support Scottish Government as required on 24/25 arrangements.
- Develop outcome framework (strategic) and approach to assurance and learning for future grant management and monitoring arrangements.
- Groundwork for developing future thoughts on shape of CJS staff team and budget for when the project becomes business as usual.
- Work with 3<sup>rd</sup> sector colleagues on transition and handover if necessitated by Ministerial decision on options appraisal.



# Voluntary Throughcare and Mentoring

## Cascade Communication



October - December 2023

IF YOU WANT TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THE TEAM PLEASE [EMAIL US](#). THE TEAM ARE ON HOLIDAY FROM 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023 TO 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024 SO EMAILS WILL NOT BE ANSWERED OVER THIS PERIOD. EMAILS WILL BE PICKED UP ON THE TEAM'S RETURN TO WORK FROM MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024.

The Commissioning team wishes you a happy Christmas and best wishes for 2024.



The next cascade brief will be published following the end of quarter 4 and will cover the period January to March 2024.

