

Communication from Hannah Dickson. Voluntary Throughcare Project Lead.

Dear all,

You've received this email as you indicated your interest in receiving updates on the voluntary throughcare commissioning project led by CJS and Scottish Government.

Community Justice Scotland (CJS) has been conducting a review into the current operation and demand for voluntary throughcare services and in September 2023 provided the options and our recommendation to Scottish Ministers as to the scale and type of such services that the Scottish Government should grant fund in the future.

After consideration, the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs has indicated her preference for a single, national throughcare and resettlement service provided through a partnership model to be commissioned. It is intended that this future service will commence from 2025/26 and the commissioning process will be led by CJS. Our working assumption is that the amount of grant funding available will be £5.3M. Please note that at this stage this is still subject to Parliamentary approval of the Scottish Budget Bill 2024/25 – and approval of future budgets.

The purpose of the grant fund is to establish a national partnership of voluntary sector organisations to provide throughcare support to people leaving prison after a prison sentence of less than four years or those leaving prison after a period of time spent on remand. The partnership will offer needs lead and person centred support to people leaving prison, and will provide an initial offer of resettlement support upon release from prison with the option of providing more intensive support to those who need it for up to 12 months. The support should be available to everyone leaving prison, regardless of age or gender, and should be available across all of Scotland.

We will provide further information on the grant specification and commissioning process in the next few weeks.

The current services provided by the Public Social Partnerships will continue to be provided until the new service is commenced.

If you have any queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Please email commissioning@communityjustice.scot.

Regards,
Hannah

Hannah Dickson

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