

# COMMUNITY PAYBACK ORDER ANNUAL REPORT

FINANCIAL YEAR: **2019/20**

LOCAL AUTHORITY: **Perth and Kinross**



**Types of unpaid work projects and activities which have been carried out; the total number of unpaid work hours completed during the year; and information and examples that help to demonstrate how communities benefit from unpaid work.**

The Unpaid Work Team (UPW) is located at Westbank House which is an extensive site and is shared with the Council plant nurseries in partnership with Perth and Kinross Council Community Greenspace. The UPW team use a partially converted Roads Department shed as a workshop in which they store their outdoor tools and build and repair furniture. This also includes constructing other wooden structures depending on the requirements of the job request. This co-location provides many opportunities for collaborative and partnership working as well as promoting employability opportunities for the people undertaking UPW. The team works closely with the Environment Service and Community Greenspace to ensure towns and villages across Perth and Kinross have their plants and hanging flower baskets delivered timeously and make a significant contribution to this process.

The site at Westbank House has helped promote a culture of inclusion for people in Perth and Kinross to learn new skills and build their social and emotional confidence. It operates on the ethos of a social enterprise and has led to the development of the Westbank Project with the strap-line 'The Growing Place'. This not only refers to horticultural activities but the personal, social and emotional development of those using the site. The purpose for the UPW Team is about delivering high quality work which is of social benefit to the citizens and communities of Perth and Kinross while:

- ensuring we continue to discharge our statutory responsibilities;
- providing a productive environment for clients through purposeful activity;
- supporting and investing in staff to deliver and sustain a quality service;
- working to support and deliver the Westbank vision.

The work delivered by the UPW team spans across the geography of Perth and Kinross and is a highly visible demonstration of the reparation work provided to both urban and rural communities. The activity promotes social inclusion for those who are often marginalised because of their criminal behaviour.

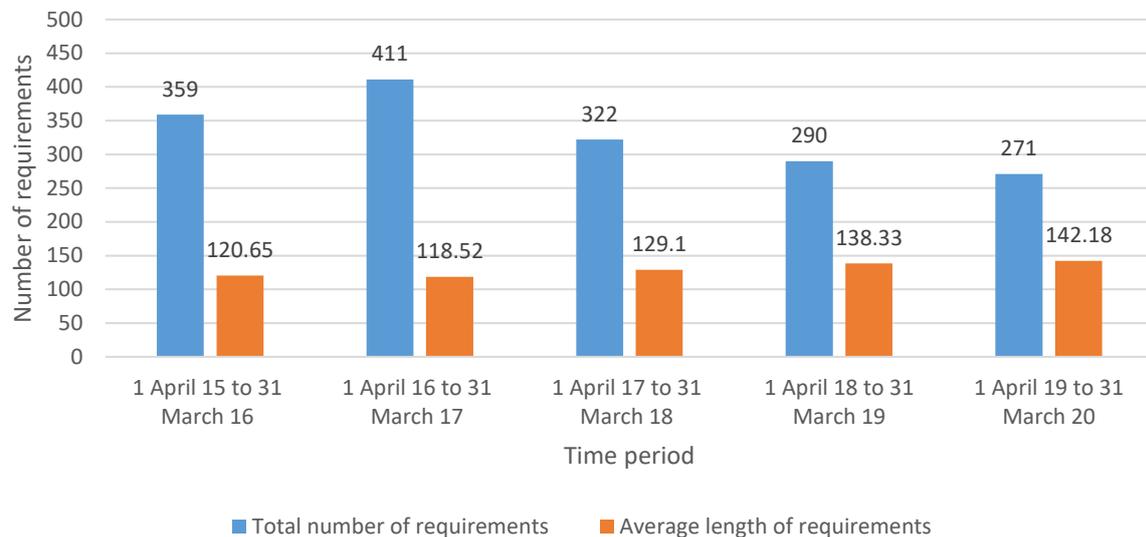


Figure 1. New Unpaid Work Requirements – Number and average length (hours)

Figure 1 highlights that there were 271 Unpaid Work Requirements imposed in 2019/20 with an average of 142 hours per Requirement. This is the fourth year in succession where the number of new UPW Requirements has decreased. However, in tandem with the decrease in Requirements, there has been successive increases in the average length of Requirements. Therefore, the trend is for fewer but longer UPW Requirements.

In 2019/20, 75% of all UPW Requirements were successfully completed. This compares with 75% in 2018/19. Of the CPOs that were not completed successfully in 2019/20, the majority were breached and returned to Court for non-compliance. In these cases, the offender typically received either a further CPO or a custodial sentence.

Perth and Kinross Council's UPW Team received 355 requests for work to be carried out during 2019-20. The requests were received from communities across Perth and Kinross and required a wide range of activities to be carried out. These included:

- Ground-clearing and maintenance;
- Garden renovation and landscaping;
- Planting and digging;
- Garden Furniture and raised bed construction;
- Painting and decorating;
- Building and brick work;
- Fencing and dry-stone walling;
- Pointing and cementing;
- Chewing gum and graffiti removal;
- Set and prop building for events;
- Litter picking;
- Growing and cultivation;
- Courses and training;
- Cleaning and power-washing;
- Path building and slab-laying.

Specific activities and publicity for this including community feedback have included the following:

### 1. Decorating the Scout Hut in Bridge of Earn

Community Payback Team clients spent approximately 320 hours over 2 weeks painting the inside and outside of the Scout Hut in Bridge of Earn.

The clients gained experience of decorating skills and techniques including using decorating poles, rollers and ladders (*pictured right*).



The clients received this positive feedback after the work was completed (*pictured, right*):

"The Cubs think the hut is AWESOME!! Looks fab. Can you pass on our sincere thanks to the team. We are really very grateful. Really exceeded our expectations."



### 2. Renovation work at Perth Congregational Church

Worshipping on the site of Perth Congregational Church, located on Kinnoull Street in Perth (opposite Pullar House), can be traced back to 1794.

However, the current church on the site (*pictured, right*) was designed by architects Steele and Balfour, who were based in Glasgow. It is built in the period of Scots Gothic, using sandstone, with a slate roof and it opened to the public in 1899.





It is a listed building and still contains the original decorative wooden pulpit, wooden organ case (*pictured, left*) and wooden pews. It has cast iron columns and carvings of foliage at the gallery level.

The pews (*pictured, below*) needed essential renovating so the Church asked for help from the Community Payback Team clients to clean and varnish this Church's pews and other woodwork.

They spent around 500 hours in total over 3 weeks to renovate the woodwork.



The job had to be undertaken in stages so that there was no disruption to the Congregation's service schedule.

All the woodwork, including the pews, are now clean and looking beautifully shiny: renovated to last so that many more generations of the Congregation can enjoy this listed place of worship.

### 3. Reparation work to a wall at Kirk Wynd in Dunning

The Community Payback Team were asked by the local Community Council to repair the block and brick wall (*pictured, right*) at the bottom of Kirk Wynd.



The wall was sagging outwards and was unsafe for passers-by, especially local children en-route to school.

The wall had to be completely stripped back (*pictured, left*) and re-built.

The work was completed (*pictured, right*) over a weekend and took about 35 hours in total to complete.



### 4. Flood prevention work in Forgandenny



*Overgrown vegetation hiding the Burn*

In early September, Community Payback Team clients cleared a severely overgrown section of Forgandenny Burn (*pictured, above*).

They spent almost 50 hours over two days, clearing the river-banks and the grating to help make the area safer from flooding. The photos (*below*) show the area now.



## 5. Visit from the Cabinet Secretary for Justice

In February 2020, the Westbank Project was visited by Humza Yousaf (Cabinet Secretary for Justice) who was interested in finding out about the activity and developments at the Westbank site.

He was able to chat with two students who attend Perth High School and were referred through UPW about their views on the Forklift training they were undertaking (*one of whom is pictured, right*). Also, their experience of the opportunities available to them at the Westbank site.





The Cabinet Secretary met the Chair of the Perth and Kinross Community Justice Partnership Councillor Chris Ahern, an UPW Project Officer, and the Westbank Manager (all pictured, left). He heard about the plans and projects being undertaken at Westbank and the geographical scope of work across both the urban and rural communities in Perth and Kinross.

## 6. Painting over graffiti in Tulloch



In March 2019 the UPW Team spent a weekend painting over graffiti in the Tulloch Underpass in Perth which links Nimmo Avenue to Tulloch Primary School.

Almost a year on – in mid-February 2020 – the Community Payback Team clients were asked to return and again paint over more graffiti in the Underpass (pictured, above and right). The work took a full weekend and its refurbishment has again not only improved the environment but made the use of underpass a less intimidating experience.



## **Quotes from people on CPOs and beneficiaries about the impact of the unpaid work on them and/or the community.**

### **Quotes from people who have undertaken UPW**

“Being out of work because of my mental health, being here gave me joy to be doing stuff for the local community.”

“Upgrading people’s houses who were unable to do it themselves”

“Very lonely person, it has got me back into what it is like to be in a place of work”

“Learning new skill sets from the work and staff”.

### **Quotes from beneficiaries of the services of the UPW Team**

- UPW clients helped a group in Perth prepare for a community event for which the Team received an email thanking them for their work:

*“I just wanted to say thank you to Ian and the team for all their help on Friday and Saturday. Ian and the team performed above and beyond on both days and I was extremely impressed to have them come back and take the tables and chairs to Letham St Marks after the event. I hope that we can work with you all in the future.”*

- UPW clients re-decorated the main room in Ardoch Parish Church Hall over three days. The paint was peeling off the walls and a refreshed colour scheme was needed. Following completion of the work, the Team received the following feedback:

*“On behalf of Ardoch Church congregation I wish to express our grateful thanks to the Community Payback Team for the excellent painting work they have done at the Church premises. We are delighted with the new look and it has brightened the whole place.*

*(UPW Supervisor) and his team have been exceptionally tidy and at the end of each day have always cleared up so that the hall can be used with no problem. Thank you so much for your assistance.”*

- Family worker (Children, Families and and Young Person’s Services, PKC) provided this feedback:

*“I just wanted to say a BIG thank you to you and your team who decorated the sitting room of one of the families we work with in [Perth City]. The guys involved went out of their way to help and support the family and this has had a positive impact. The referral was acted upon really promptly, the standard of work was very high, and the family are in a more motivated and positive place.”*

- The Secretary (Comrie Community Council) provided the following feedback:

*“Just a quick note to thank you for the excellent service you provided last Friday with the group of Community Payback men and women that came through to Comrie to assist with the tree planting project. They were all very personable and helpful and we got the job done within our allotted time frame.”*

- Committee member from Beautiful Perth provided the following feedback:

*“Can I thank yourself and (UPW Supervisor) for the huge help you gave us at the WebWalk last Tuesday and at Oakbank corner the following Monday. Your clients performed magnificently, worked hard and in a courteous and polite manner. On behalf of Beautiful Perth and all the volunteers can I say a big thank you to your clients. Their help is much appreciated.”*

- Family worker (Children, Families and and Young Person’s Services, PKC) stated the following:

*“I would just like to let you know that I was extremely happy with the painting works completed at the above address. The works that was carried out by (UPW supervisor) and his team was very professional and outstanding. The elderly tenant is very happy to be back home, and his property looks amazing!”*

### **Types of "other activity" carried out as part of the unpaid work or other activity requirement.**

The Westbank Hub continues to provide opportunities for a range of community groups which include:

- Young people who have disengaged at school. They will be able to utilise the opportunities at the Westbank Project and gain an insight into work. learn new skills and work towards qualifications in partnership with their designated school and improve the likelihood of reaching positive destinations.
- Offenders who have been involved in UPW will have opportunities to learn new skills, attain basic certificates of competence and learn how to ready themselves for the job market.
- People who are isolated through illness, bereavement or for other reasons will have the opportunity to socially engage with others, learn new skills, build their confidence and learn how to ready themselves for either a job or volunteering.
- Women who have physical, mental-health, offending and addiction issues will have opportunities to engage with individuals and groups through the One Stop Women’s Learning Service (OWLS) to learn new job skills, build their self-confidence and self-esteem making them better able to consider future employment prospects and/or volunteering.

They do this through working with others at the Westbank project through:

- Horticulture;
- Plant maintenance and distribution;
- Joinery and manufacturing;
- Furniture renovation;
- Bee-keeping;
- Allotment cultivation;
- Grounds maintenance;
- Painting and decorating.

In addition, this is achieved through working with other agencies who deliver on course in:

- First Aid;

- Cardio Vascular preparation;
- Confidence and team building;
- Health and Safety;
- Ground maintenance;
- Plant care and maintenance.

Westbank has now been fully accredited by the Road Traffic Industry Training Board (RTITB) and is delivering certificated internationally recognised Forklift and Telehandler training. This is available to those furthest from the workplace via partnerships with the Employability Network, the Westbank Hub (Outreach), Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), HMP Castle Huntly, education services, mental health and learning disability support groups.

In February 2020, the Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Humza Yousaf visited the Westbank Project and met with one of the first clients to successfully complete their Forklift training. The person has since gone on to secure employment as a result of gaining the qualification.

A Skills Academy for European Social Fund (ESF) candidates is planned which will provide 50 courses between 1 September 2020 and 31 December 2020. Other future developments include the installation of a fully fitted vehicle workshop where candidates can be trained in vehicle maintenance, servicing, inspection, tyre fitting, valeting, welding and metal fabrication. To facilitate this development, structural changes are being carried out to the area and it is expected that the workshop will be operational early in 2021.

**Activities carried out to consult prescribed persons and organisations, pursuant to section 227ZL of the 1995 Act, and wider communities on the nature of unpaid work and other activities and how the consultation results helped determine which projects were undertaken.**

The Criminal Justice Service has developed several media channels to publicise the work of the UPW Team and encourage local communities to engage with them. These include:

- News from Westbank. This monthly e-newsletter provides updates on all four projects that form part of the Westbank Hub: UPW, Westbank Project, Perth Community Farm and Community Greenspace. The newsletter contains short news stories and pictures that highlight the work of the teams that operate from Westbank and offers readers the opportunity to volunteer with the projects.
- The Westbank Project Facebook page. The page contains short news stories and photographs of pieces of work undertaken by the teams based at the Hub.
- Unpaid Work Website page. As part of the Perth and Kinross website, the UPW Team's page includes a function that allows members of the community to submit requests for pieces of work for their communities. This has proved popular and increased the accessibility of the team.

The success of these media channels in highlighting the work of the UPW Team is evidenced by the fact that they received 355 requests for work to be undertaken during 2019/20. While very welcome, this has also been challenging as the Team received such a volume of requests that these had to be prioritised particularly when considering new work requests and, in an effort, to clear the subsequent back-log.

**Use by the courts of CPO requirements other than unpaid work, for example what, and in what way, different requirements are being used for those whose offending is driven by drug, alcohol and mental health issues; or how requirements such as programme or conduct are being used to address offending behaviour.**

The number of new Community Payback Orders (CPOs) issued by the Courts for people in Perth and Kinross in 2019/20 was similar in number of new CPOs which were issued in the previous year. In 2019/20 there were 353 new CPOs compared to 346 in 2018/19.

Although the number of CPOs remains steady, there have been some differences in the number and types of Requirements issued in 2019/20 when compared to 2018/19.

The number of Supervision Requirements increased from 198 in 2018/19 to 219 in 2019/20. There was also an increase in the number of Drug and Alcohol Treatment Requirements. This is an area where the Criminal Justice Service are taking a closer look at and is an important part of the review and development of the changes in our service delivery for men in the justice system. This will reflect the partnership and integrated working practices with health colleagues, and third sector which already exists with our OWLS service for women.

The only notable decrease in CPO Requirements was Unpaid Work where the number fell from 290 in 2018/19 to 271 in 2019/20. It is not clear why this is the case however; the service will keep this under review and monitor this to ascertain if a trend is developing.

**Caledonian System (Delivered by the Public Protection Team)**

The Caledonian System is an integrated way of working to address men's domestic abuse and improve the lives of women and children. It is delivered by Perth and Kinross in partnership with Dundee City Council and has been operational in both areas since April 2019. As such it is now a CPO Programme Requirement disposal available to Sheriffs at the point of sentencing.

Since implementation CJS social workers in Perth and Kinross have prepared 101 Criminal Justice social Work Reports (CJSWRs) where domestic aggravators have been attached to the index offence. In each case the man has been screened for their suitability for inclusion in the Caledonian programme in conjunction with the Caledonian Groupwork Delivery Team. Pre-sentence assessments are jointly prepared along with a Spousal assault Risk Assessment Version 3 (SARAv3). In addition, there is joint delivery of 2:1 work with male perpetrators enabling a productive exchange of vital information, assessment of risk and decision making. This is particularly beneficial given the women's worker who is employed by Perthshire Women's Aid (PWA) is integrated and based in the criminal justice social work office.

The Caledonian System offers a direct service to the women who are cited as victims of domestic offences and are offered not only support but the opportunity to give their views at the pre-sentence stage of the perpetrator. This service is a new development for Perth and Kinross as it the first time social workers have had the opportunity to work directly with victims of crime. Up until 31 March 2020, over 70 women have engaged with the Caledonian women's service whether their partner's charges have led to a conviction or they have not been accepted on the programme. This has been an important source of support for women and a recognition they have been heard and are not isolated.

Relevant information sharing protocols are also in place and have allowed Police Scotland to share perpetrator information when a man has been convicted of a domestic offence.

This is crucial when social workers are assessing levels of risk of re-offending and harm as well as ascertaining suitability for inclusion in the Caledonian Programme. This is one example of the programme being a multiagency approach which also includes sharing of information with children's services and child protection, Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), MARAC and MATAAC.

Although the basis of the current Caledonian System is groupwork based for male perpetrators, there is current work ongoing to allow the programme to be delivered on a 1:1 basis as not all individuals are suitable for groupwork.

Where domestic abuse has been a concern, CJS has been able to offer some non-court mandated input to Children and Families social work teams. CJS are keen to expand this area and are aware that there are currently pilot projects in 3 local authority areas which are looking to deliver non-court mandated work jointly between CJS and Children and Families services. This would be a valuable and much needed development however, there are resource implications which need to be considered before this is progressed further.

**Any issues affecting access to services which are provided by other partners (e.g. drug and alcohol services) and, where such issues have been identified, what work is underway to resolve them.**

A key issue for the Criminal Justice Service has been in relation to work with social work colleagues in adult social work and social care. There is a need to clarify responsibilities in undertaking assessment for a person's health and social care needs while they are subject to a CPO or are working voluntarily with workers in CJS. This is currently an area which is being addressed between services to ensure there is no detriment to the person receiving or requiring a service and workers understand their role and responsibilities.

**Any other relevant information, which may include:**

- **Examples of any work carried out with people on CPOs to address their offending behaviour but which does not fall into the category of a specific requirement**
- **Examples of work carried out in partnership with the third sector**
- **Areas identified where improvements can be made, i.e. CPO commencement/completion rates**
- **Any other areas identified for improvement and planned next steps**
- **Any other information**

**One-Stop Women's Learning Service (OWLS)**

OWLS has actively participated in a range of community activities during 2019/20 which have included the following:

- **MacMillan Coffee Morning.** Women from OWLS hosted their first MacMillan Coffee Morning and raised approximately £200. The event was planned and run by women who use the service and it well attended by members of the local community.
- **Perth and Kinross Home Safety Partnership Scheme.** Staff and women from OWLS participated in a scheme which provides emergency service staff with vital details of any illness and medications when they are called to attend someone in their own home. In addition, it provides details of the person's emergency contact should this

be required and is stored in a plastic container in the person's fridge. The women filled 3000 containers which they then delivered to the local Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) who distributed them to relevant people in the community.

- The local Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) received funding up to December 2021 to participate and work in partnership with six services in the Perth and Kinross in terms of the Community Advice Project (CAP). The purpose was to provide advice and support to people experiencing poverty, financial hardship or poor mental and physical health. The support provided is tailored to the individual, an example of which includes individuals who have had their benefits stopped following a short-term prison sentence or require support to access medical services.

### **Criminal Justice Men's Service**

The Perth and Kinross Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP) identified men who offend as a key priority and an area which required further focus. A review into the criminal justice social work service delivery for men was conducted and a report produced in January 2019. Central to this were the views of men who experience the justice system and what services were being delivered in other local authority areas. Also, what evidence and research told us about the most effective ways of working with men to achieve the best outcomes for them, their families and communities.

Funding was subsequently provided over a two year period and agreed at Full Council in 2019. This has allowed the service to scope out opportunities to work in a more integrated way with the third sector and health colleagues to address some of the fundamental issues for men and impinge on their offending behaviour.

The Men's Service will provide a blend of both structured and unstructured interventions. The structured interventions will relate to men who are subject to CPOs as often their level of risk and their criminogenic needs will be better managed in terms of an intense and targeted approach. Less structured interventions, for example if a person is in crisis and even if they are not on a CPO then there will be the flexibility to respond in a more agile and fluid nature to stem the crisis and reduce the potential for further harm.

To achieve the environment and service which reflects the findings of the research, the following principles have been developed:

- Facilitate a safe environment which is non-threatening, trauma informed and enhances men's engagement
- Provide a structured modular programme of work that will be delivered in groups where possible but adapted for individual delivery if required depending on specific needs
- A person's mental and physical wellbeing will be at the forefront of any work undertaken with men in the service
- A person-centred assessment process will be adopted in addition to the usual risk assessment tools and case management processes. This will help the individual to chart their own progress and move away from offending as well as having a better understanding of themselves and their own abilities.
- Provide a one-stop approach where services, either statutory or third sector can deliver direct interventions, co-ordinate and share information where appropriate and support men in their progress out of their offending patterns.
- Ensure trauma informed and adverse childhood experiences are more widely considered when working with men and ensure they receive the necessary support to address these issues.

As of March 2020, the final proposal for the project was almost complete regarding a partnership agreement with third sector. The plan was to begin moving forward in July 2020 however due to the advent of COVID-19, it has delayed plans and it is now anticipated to be late 2020 / early 2021.

### **Structured Deferred Sentence (Right Track – aged 16 to 26))**

There were 42 referrals during the period 2019/20 of which 35 were male and 7 were female. During the period 2019/20, only 1 person was unsuccessful in reaching their completion date and received a custodial sentence for further offending during their participation on the programme.

Of the clients who successfully completed Right Track: two clients were Admonished and Dismissed due to their work project hours being completed, 7 clients were made subject to a Community Payback Order and the remainder offered a Fine or given a Deferred Sentence for good behaviour.

A number of the Right Track participants have continued to attend the work project – which is a version of UPW – at the Westbank site where Right Track now has its own shed and allotment. The young people complete gardening work, litter picking and general maintenance of the site and surrounding area. They have also accrued additional hours in one of the local charity shops or by removing chewing gum from pavements in Perth City centre.

During April 2019 to March 2020, 2,667 hours of voluntary work were completed by the Right Track clients.

### **Bail Supervision**

The criminal justice social work service along with youth services have collaboratively designed a Bail Supervision service for young people aged 16-21 (up to age 26 for care leavers) to develop the existing capacity in the area. This partnership was developed following additional monies given to re-invigorate the Whole System Approach to youth offending.

The Service aims to give young people the opportunity to engage in intensive support provided by a Bail Officer prior to attending court for sentencing. The contact with the Bail Officer is up to three times per week or more if required and includes home visits where appropriate. The work carried out with the young person is specifically targeted to their needs and can involve a range of other service providers including:

- Drug and Alcohol Team;
- WEB Project and Streets Ahead;
- Hillcrest Futures;
- Skills Development Scotland;
- 16+ Team;
- RASAC (Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre);
- PKAVS (Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Service);
- Police Scotland;
- Venture Trust;
- Welfare Rights.

In 2019/20, the service received 44 requests for Bail Supervision and of these, 15 cases commenced. Of the 15 cases, 14 successfully completed with the remaining young person being remanded and later imprisoned. A number of positive outcomes have been recorded during this reporting period including successful participation by one young person in a construction course run in partnership with youth services and another individual completing a baby first aid course.

### **Diversion from Prosecution**

Considering rising prisoner numbers and building on the expansion of Bail Supervision in partnership with youth services, criminal justice social work has increased its focus on Diversion from prosecution. The support provided to people subject to Diversion is always delivered on a one to one basis by an allocated Criminal Justice Assistant (CJA) and on occasion when the needs of the individual are more complex then, a social worker may also work alongside them to offer additional advice and support. The nature of the support is to look at behaviour that may put the person at risk of committing further offences and to offer practical support and advice, usually by signposting people to appropriate services. Also, where existing services are in place, liaison will take place to ensure that the person is engaging with them. Any client referred by the Procurator Fiscal (PF), with the exemption of anyone accused of domestic offences, may be eligible to participate in the Diversion scheme.

In 2019/20 56 potential diversion cases were assessed, of which 35 were deemed suitable for Diversion. Of the 35, 21 of these individuals successfully completed with 9 currently still subject to Diversion so have not completed this process yet. The remaining 5 were reported back to the PF due to their lack of engagement.

COMPLETED BY: Nicola Rogerson

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