



Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

Name of Proposal

Justice Social Work Shared Services

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment **No**

(B) If you have answered No to the above, please indicate the following:

Is this a full Equality Impact Assessment **Yes**

Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment **No**

(i)Lead Directorate/Service:

Children, Families and Justice Directorate

(ii)Are there any **relevant** statutory requirements affecting this proposal? If so, please describe.

Delivery of specialist service providing assessment and programme intervention for those convicted of sexual offences by Tay Project, as a requirement of the Court as part of services required under section 27 of the Social Work (Scotland Act) 1968 (as amended).

(iii)What is the aim of the proposal? Please give full details.

The proposal is seeking approval for payments to Dundee City Council to continue the partnership approaches with Dundee City and Perth and Kinross Councils to deliver key justice social work services, with note to the partnership arrangement in place for the delivery of a Custody Assessment and Referral Service pilot project.

(iv)Is it a new proposal? **No**

Is it a review of e.g. an existing budget saving, report, strategy, policy, service review, procedure or function? **Yes**

Dundee City Council host the Tay Project, a specialist service providing assessment and programme intervention for those convicted of sexual offences, as a requirement of the Court. This is delivered on a pan-Tayside basis, with grant contributions from Perth and Kinross and Angus Councils. The purpose of this report is to provide and update and seek approval to continue funding this service.

Step 4: Which people does your proposal involve or have consequences for?

Please indicate all which apply:

Employees	Yes
Job Applicants	No
Service users	Yes
Members of the public	Yes

Step 5: List the evidence/data/research that has been used in this assessment (links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance). This could include:

Internal data – Volume, demand and outcome data from Tay Project reviewed by MAPPA Strategic Oversight Group

Internal consultation - NA

External data - NA

External consultation – Ongoing engagement with core public protection partners as part of Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements

Step 6: Evidence Gaps.

Are there any gaps in the equality information you currently hold? No

Step 7: Are there potential differential impacts on protected characteristic groups? Please complete for each group, including details of the potential impact on those affected. Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

Age **Impact** - Neutral

The proposals (Tay Project/ Custody Assessment and Referral Service Pilot/ The Caledonian System) do not discriminate on age. Expected to have a positive impact across all age groups across the Angus area requiring these services.

Disability **Impact** – Neutral

The proposals/services are accessible to those with a disability.

Given Angus is a rural LA the review of public transport will potentially have a positive impact on people with a disability as it aims to make the transport system more accessible which should improve people's access to services

Gender reassignment **Impact** – Neutral No restrictions to access services based on gender reassignment

Marriage and Civil Partnership **Impact** - Neutral

Access to the services are not restricted by a person's personal relationship status

It is hoped the Caledonian System which takes an integrated approach to addressing domestic abuse combining a court-ordered programme for men, aimed at changing their behaviour, with support services for women and children will have a positive impact on people in all different types of partnerships.

Pregnancy/Maternity **Impact** – Neutral

Although again early support for pregnant woman experiencing domestic abuse through Caledonian System likely to have a positive outcome on women and their unborn babies

Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers) **Impact** - Neutral

No restrictions to access services based on race including Gypsy Travellers.

Religion or Belief **Impact** - Neutral

No restrictions to access services based on religion or beliefs of individuals

Sex Impact – Positive

Women are disproportionately affected by domestic abuse, service for women and their children as well working with men to change behaviours will positively impact on individual and families. The Caledonian System is supported by national funding and infrastructure and the continued partnership approach to delivery will help ensure that high quality, resilient, public protection services remain accessible in Angus.

The Tay Project, a specialist service hosted by Dundee City Council providing assessment and programme intervention for those convicted of sexual offences (as a requirement of the Court) provides a specialist service which helps to keep citizens of Angus safe and supporting positive behaviour change for those convicted of sexual offences.

Sexual orientation **Impact** – Neutral

No restrictions to access services based on sexual orientation.

Step 8: Consultation with any of the groups potentially affected

If you have consulted with any group potentially affected, please give details of how this was done and what the results were.

No change in provision of service – continuation of Tay Project, Custody Assessment and Referral Service Pilot and The Caledonian System.

Feedback from people accessing services is regularly reviewed

Step 9: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce potentially negative impacts?

No negative impact identified

Step 10: If a potentially negative impact has been identified, please state below the justification.

There could be negative impacts of ceasing the services described in the Justice Social Work Shared Services Report if approval is not granted.

Step 11: In what way does this proposal contribute to any or all of the public sector equality duty to: eliminate unlawful discrimination; advance equality of

opportunity; and foster good relations between people of different protected characteristics?

The Justice service works in a trauma informed way, taking a relationship-based approach which enables all individuals who access services to be supported many of whom have experience exclusion from the wider community. Services outlined in the proposal supports improved health and wellbeing through access to early help and support and reduces inequalities for individuals at risk of offending or returning to their community.

Step 12: Is there any action which could be taken to advance equalities in relation to this proposal?

Use the learning from the Custody Assessment and Referral Service Pilot where individual in custody are offered advice and help, if agreeable an assessment of their individual needs and appropriate services to meet their unique need.

Step 14: What arrangements will be put in place to monitor and review the Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment?

Escalation to Children, Families and Justice senior management team is in place with reports being made to appropriate Committees as required.

Step 15: Where will this Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment be published?

Online with committee papers.

Step 16: Sign off and Authorisation. Please state name, post, and date for each:

Prepared by: Peter McDonnell

Reviewed by: Karen Ross

Approved by: Kirsty Lee