

CJAP Annual Report Part 2 Summary 2024/25

Court sentences can be Custody, Community, Monetary or Other. We want less use of prison, and therefore a reduced proportion of disposals being custody. This year the proportion increased across Ayrshire for the second year in a row, and was higher than the national rate.



We want to increase diversions from prosecution (an alternative to court where someone can avoid a conviction by addressing the underlying causes of their offending). This year DfP assessments increased across Ayrshire, as did the number of DfP cases commenced. Over Ayrshire as a whole the number of successfully completed cases also increased.

After an arrest, in police custody, there is an opportunity to help people engage with support services and address any underlying health or social issues contributing to their offending, such as substance use or mental health issues. Though we don't currently have figures work via Sacro in Saltcoats and the refreshed police custody process will have a positive impact.



Bail supervision can minimise the numbers of accused people held on remand in custody where appropriate. We want to see increased use of Bail to avoid unnecessary use of prison. Number of bail assessments decreased this year overall in Ayrshire, as did cases commenced. The number of cases successfully completed increased compared to the previous year.

Community based sentences like Community Payback Orders and Drug Treatment and Testing Orders are effective alternatives to short term prison sentences. We want to see increased use and effectiveness of these sentences. Last year the number of successfully completed orders increased while the proportion successfully completed decreased (though numbers of DTTO remained low).



There are many complex needs for which individuals require person-centred support on entering and leaving custody. We want to see an increase in the number of transfers in drug/alcohol treatments from custody to community and last year this figure decreased in Ayrshire, though North remained high.

People who have access to stable housing are less likely to offend, and people who are leaving prison are often without a permanent address and in need of support from local housing services to find accommodation. We want to see a decrease in the number of homeless applications from people leaving prison. Last year the number did slightly decrease in Ayrshire.



Supporting individuals in the justice system to undertake training and education to access, retain and sustain employment is critical as having a job reduces the likelihood of offending. We want to see an increasing proportion of those in employability services with convictions. While the number increased, the proportion came down but remained above the national level.

Throughcare support helps people re-engage with communities and public services they may have disconnected from while in prison. Voluntary throughcare for people who served a sentence of up to 4 years can be delivered by Justice Social Work and also by 3rd sector. Though JSW numbers remained low, the newly commissioned 3rd sector Upside service will increase numbers taking support.



People involved in the justice system can experience significant levels of stigma, particularly if they have been in prison. Partnerships must work to increase public awareness and confidence in CJ. Nationally, we saw a slight increase in those preferring the use of community sentences than short term prison sentences. We also saw a high % agreement when we have asked locally.