

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL



Community Justice and the SPS

TRANSFORMING LIVES

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- Community Justice – in, for and with the community?
 - How do we get ‘the Community’ to understand and buy-in?
 - How do we prepare communities to accept people/ back and support them?
 - Can we have fluid custody arrangements?

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- New focus on 'revolving door' offenders, many of whom not covered by any statutory authority
 - SPS staff have not traditionally worked 'beyond the walls' – our walls need to be porous
 - Belief that there needs to be a menu of options for people post-liberation, including in who they get support from
 - Realisation that many offenders/ex-offenders trust prison staff (many don't!)
 - Recognition that (one of) the danger time(s) for ex-offenders is the first hours and days post-liberation
 - Evidence that social isolation is a risk factor for re-offending
 - Understanding that ex-offenders families are from the same demographic as those who offend; families increasingly involved in 'in-jail' activities

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- Throughcare Pilots in x4 Prisons (Greenock, Dumfries, Perth and Low Moss)
 - Greenock pilot evaluated by University of Edinburgh Business School
 - Findings indicate early success in supporting people to re-integrate and deal with outstanding issues in the vital six-weeks post liberation
 - SPS response – funding Throughcare Officers in all prison that liberate STPs direct to the community (all but Shotts)
 - Further initiatives around the country to support people post-liberation e.g. Drop-in café at Dumfries, Annan Athletic
 - Increasing understanding that as well as housing and employment, people need help to live! – Lifeskills, Tenancy, Mindfulness