



**West Dunbartonshire HSCP  
Community Justice Local Outcome Improvement  
Plan (CJOIP) & Delivery Plan  
April 2024 – April 2027**



## **West Dunbartonshire HSCP Chief Officer & Community Justice Partnership Chair Foreword**

As chair of West Dunbartonshire's Community Justice Partnership, I am delighted to be leading and supporting the vital work of the HSCP, and wider partners, to deliver meaningful change and improvement; supporting improved outcomes for those who come into conflict with the law and require the support of justice services. In the last eighteen months the appointment of our full -time co-ordinator has facilitated support to partners, advancing the preventative focus aligned to our National and Local Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan, assisting the work of West Dunbartonshire's Community Justice Partnership to go from strength to strength.

Local implementation of Caledonian Systems; a preventative focus on early and effective intervention for young people and those on the fringes of justice; diversion from custody; and increased bail supervision, are delivered with a robust partnership approach across statutory and wider partners. Our whole systems approach with partners delivering early release/planned release, and custody to community pathways, has strengthened not only multi- agency working but most importantly our ability to effectively plan and co-ordinate to ensure support from custody is both available and proportionate.

It is important that the Community Justice Partnership has clear aims and impact measures to track outcomes and progress, and this is what the approach laid out in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan gives us. Our local planning and improvement work will be showcased at the Justice Services Conference in June 2025 - raising the profile of, and confidence in Community Justice, supporting the development of shared learning across partner service areas, and demonstrating the vital difference that a Community Justice approach can, and does make, in the lives of those supported by the Justice systems and those victims we seek to support & safeguard.

**Beth Culshaw**  
**Chief Officer**  
**West Dunbartonshire HSCP**

## West Dunbartonshire HSCP Community Justice Partnership Commitment

West Dunbartonshire Community Justice Partnership (here in after WD CJP) is pleased to introduce its vision for Community Justice across the locality for 2024 - 2027. WD CJP will update the strategy three yearly to build on success, seek to reduce barriers and challenges to successful outcomes, and meet our duties in this dynamic legislative and policy landscapes.

## Participation Statement

WD CJP is committed to continue to engage with WD residents, listen to them and empower them to influence, contribute, and shape, strategic outcome priorities and enablers across and between all aspects of West Dunbartonshire's Justice Service's portfolio. To inform our Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP), WD CJP created engagement and participation opportunities with justice service users (previous and current), justice staff and managers, partner members of WD CJP, and the wider workforce and community.

These included:

- WD CJOIP has been a rolling agenda item that has been discussed at each CJP meeting. Partners have been provided with a *'7-minute briefing'* to help them better understand the aims and objective of the 'Vision for Justice in Scotland'; the 'National Strategy for Community Justice'; and the 'Community Justice Strategy: Delivery Plan'.  
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/vision-justice-scotland/>  
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-strategy-community-justice-2/>  
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-strategy-community-justice-delivery-plan/>
- Focused sessions were arranged for partners to come together as part of working groups to discuss themes and direction of particular work strands relevant to the CJP's undertakings to direct and shape the outcomes and improvement activity to the National Aims and identify local priority areas.
- Multi-agency partner stakeholders Information and Awareness raising sessions have been hosted (including opportunity for local Elected Members) to provide an overview of Community Justice as a whole; the work, purpose, and function of WD CJP and 'The Caledonian System'
- WD CJP are in the process of capturing the authentic voices of people who are involved with or (have been involved with) Justice Services ensuring they are represented in the development, shaping and commissioning of service provision. This survey is the first phase - a draft version has been developed in partnership with multiagency stakeholder partners; this draft has been peer reviewed by the partnership and team managers across justice services and team managers across WD ADP (Alcohol and Drug Partnership). The next phase will be a redrafted version that will be peer reviewed before the activity is commenced fully across the locality. This activity will ensure that the voices of those with experience of justice systems help to build an improved, more meaningful system, that truly support individuals in their rehabilitation in a trauma informed needs-led way. This activity will be ongoing and future service provision will be borne from a co-production framework with service user influence at its core.
- Discussion on local priority aims and deliverables took place across wider working groups and in meetings with other partnerships including WD ADP (Alcohol and Drugs Partnership), WD HSP (Housing Solutions Partnership), WD VAWGP (Violence Against Women and Girls Partnership); WD LEP (Local Employability Partnership); and WD Safe DIG (Development & Implementation Group).
- Following ratification of the draft CJOIP the document was sent to wider staff groups for comment and consideration; all inclusions and amendments contributed to the final published draft.

- Community consultation for 'The Caledonian System' was undertaken ensuring the voices of women victims, child victims and the wider community were captured in regard to understanding the System's function; the need for such provision; and support for such an intervention within the local community. Information and Awareness raising sessions have been held to help staff groups to better understand the system and the need for a joined-up approach to tackling Domestic Abuse in West Dunbartonshire. Peer review from multi-agency managers, staff and WD VAWGP was sought for the 'Caledonian System' strategic Risk Assessment and Safety Protocol' along with the 'Standard Operating Protocol'.
- WD CJP consulted with all local community justice partner's organisations strategic plans, safeguarding potential conflict between WD CJP strategic direction and those of our partners ensuring that important areas or themes were not omitted or overlooked when devising our CJOIP.
- WD CJP worked closely with Community Justice Scotland (CJS) in particular the 'Community Justice Improvement Tool' and new Community Justice 'Targeted Resource to Support National Outcome Improvement Planning in Local Authority Areas Tool'. The new targeted resources were reviewed by relevant service areas for scrutiny and applicability. Comments and considerations were shared with CJS.  
<https://communityjustice.scot/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Community-Justice-Improvement-Tool.pdf>
- 'The Community Service Support Tool' (CSST) developed by CJS was peer reviewed with WD VAWGP and WD ADP to ensure due diligence and allow partner comment, consideration and discussion regarding potential service generated risk across and between service areas. Comment and consideration were shared with CJS.

## Equalities Statement

In developing the Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP), WD CJP carried out an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA). The purpose of an EIA is to work out how a policy or function will affect the wellbeing of different groups of people with particular needs or who are disadvantaged in some way. An EIA is an opportunity to drive fairness and good practice. As part of the EIA, and in line with the Fairer Scotland Duty, WD CJP also considers the socioeconomic impacts of its policies, process and strategies. WD CJOIP EIA and 'The Caledonian System' EIA can be located on the HSCP website. WD CJP is committed to better understanding equalities duties and undertakings, to ensure that service provision is accessible and inclusive.

<https://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/council/key-council-documents/plans-and-strategies/equality-diversity-and-fairness/eia/?step=eia-results-2021>

## West Dunbartonshire Community Profile

West Dunbartonshire is a diverse area with a rich industrial heritage still evident in our local communities today. Across the three main settlements of Clydebank, Dumbarton and the Vale of Leven we see diversity from the densely populated urban centre of Clydebank to the more rural setting of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park sitting in and beyond the northern edge of the Authority.

In the most recent review of multiple deprivation in Scotland, published in 2016, West Dunbartonshire's share of the most deprived communities increased; the largest rate of increase in relative deprivation since the previous measurement in 2012. One of the most persistent and important challenges faced in West Dunbartonshire are inequalities between the health of people living in the most and least disadvantaged circumstance. People experiencing disadvantaged life circumstances are more likely to develop a long-term health condition at an earlier age, experience more health problems during their lives and have shorter lives, in particular West Dunbartonshire is worse than the national average across a range of mental health issues. Of most concern, where

West Dunbartonshire is significantly worse than Scotland, are issues around problem drug use and risk-taking behaviours.

## West Dunbartonshire Council Community Planning (CPWD)

### Priority Outcome Areas

CPWD Strategic Priority	CPWD Outcomes
<b>A Flourishing West Dunbartonshire</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our economy is diverse and dynamic creating opportunities for everyone</li> <li>• Our local communities are sustainable and attractive</li> <li>• Increased and better-quality learning and employment opportunities</li> <li>• Enhanced quality and availability of affordable housing options</li> </ul>
<b>An Independent West Dunbartonshire</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults and older people are able to live independently in the community</li> <li>• Quality of life is improved for our older residents</li> <li>• Housing options are responsive to changing needs over time</li> </ul>
<b>A Nurtured West Dunbartonshire</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All West Dunbartonshire children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed</li> <li>• Families are supported in accessing education, learning and attainment opportunities</li> <li>• Improved life chances for all children, young people and families</li> </ul>
<b>An Empowered West Dunbartonshire</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We live in engaged and cohesive communities</li> <li>• Citizens are confident, resilient and responsible</li> <li>• Carers are supported to address their needs</li> </ul>
<b>A Safe West Dunbartonshire</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved community justice outcomes ensure West Dunbartonshire is a safe and inclusive place to live</li> <li>• All partners deliver early, and effective interventions targeted at reducing the impact of domestic abuse</li> <li>• Residents live in positive, health promoting local environments where the impact of alcohol and drugs is addressed</li> <li>• Our residents are supported to improve their emotional and mental health and wellbeing</li> </ul>

<https://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/media/4313518/west-dunbartonshire-plan-for-place.pdf>

## West Dunbartonshire Health & Social Care Partnership (HSCP)

### Strategic Outcomes, Priorities and Enablers

<b>Caring communities</b>	<b>Outcome:</b> Enhanced satisfaction among people who use our services, an increase in perceived quality of care and equitable access to services ensured.
<b>Safe and thriving communities</b>	<b>Outcome:</b> People are able to look after and improve their own health and wellbeing, and live in good health for longer, while ensuring that our citizens are safe from harm.
<b>Equal communities</b>	<b>Outcome:</b> A reduction in the impact of the wider determinants of health.
<b>Healthy communities</b>	<b>Outcomes:</b> Improved health, an increase in independence and resilience, lower rates of hospital admissions, lower rates of re-admission and a reduction in reliance on health and social care services.

**WD HSCP's approach to providing services follows the national integration planning and delivery principles ensuring that:**

- Our services are joined up and easy to understand from the point of view of the people who use them.
- We respect the rights and dignity of people who use our services and take account of the particular characteristics and circumstances of each of them.
- Our services are planned and led locally in a way that involves the community and take account of the particular needs of the people who use our services in different parts of the area in which the service is being provided.
- We protect and improve the safety of the people who use our services.

- We provide trauma-informed care
- We work to improve the quality of our services.
- We best anticipate needs and prevent them arising.
- We make the best use of the available facilities, people and other resources.
- We support community mobilisation

<http://www.wdhscp.org.uk/media/2666/wdhscp-strategic-plan.pdf>

This Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan will support and contribute to the realisation of West Dunbartonshire Council's and West Dunbartonshire HSCP's priority outcome areas for community improvement and growth.

## **Community Justice Explained**

A legal definition of 'Community Justice' is provided in section 1 of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 (the Act). Research offered in the "Vision for Justice in Scotland (2022)" publication helps us to better understand the trajectories of those who enter justice systems. The evidence appraises the intersectionality of offending behaviours with poverty; homelessness; substance misuse; physical and mental health inequalities; adverse childhood experiences (ACEs); sex; and the impact of trauma – providing us with a greater understanding into what drives and shapes offending behaviour and perpetuates recidivism. By tackling the root causes of offending to reduce recidivism victims are fewer and communities are safer.

Evidence shows that sentences served in the community have better outcomes for those involved in justice systems creating real and meaningful opportunity for behaviour change, personal growth, along with space and time for recovery from their own experiences of trauma that are directly linked to patterns of offending. A community-based approach to justice offers a balanced, proportionate and thoughtful response to people who pose little or no risk to others in their communities.

*"Community sentences are often more effective at reducing reoffending and less costly than prison sentences, particularly when it comes to sentences of under a year. Of those released from prison in 2017/18 who had served a sentence of a year or less, 49% were reconvicted within a year. The average prisoner place costs £37,334 per year, compared to £1,894 for a Community Payback Order."* (Source: Scottish Government, cost of the criminal justice system in Scotland dataset (2016/17)).

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2016/10/contents/enacted>

*"Scotland's communities have benefitted from around 10 million hours of unpaid work carried out by people serving community sentences since 2011."* (Source: Justice Social Work Statistics in Scotland: up to end of year 2021-22).

## **Community Justice Scotland**

Community Justice Scotland (CJS) is a Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB) founded in 2016 following the passing of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016. CJS's focus is on seeking solutions that work and deliver the right balance of redress and rehabilitation for our society. Prevention of offending is at the heart of the justice system, addressing the causes of offending will reduce the numbers of people entering the system and deliver a safer Scotland.

CJS work closely with national and local partners to further develop and improve community justice services across Scotland, addressing the needs of individuals with offending behaviour or are at risk of entering the criminal justice system. CJS lead on developing better means of identifying and assessing needs and are at the centre of producing and making available new research, accurate data and information so that improvement activity is always evidence-led. Collaboratively, with a wide range of partners including those in the third sector, victim's groups and business, CJS identify best practice and opportunities for innovation and the reintegration of people from prison to local

communities. CJS provide opportunities for those with lived experience of the justice system to inform and influence the development of community justice services, policy and legislation.

### **West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Community Justice Partnership (WD HSCP CJP)**

The remit of West Dunbartonshire’s Community Justice Partnership (WD CJP) is to prevent and reduce further offending by addressing its underlying causes. The multi-agency partnership is the strategic mechanism where partners collaborate to safely and effectively manage and support those who have come into conflict with the law, helping them to fully integrate into their community and realise their potential for the benefit of all citizens. The partnership priorities the safeguarding of victims ensuring they are afforded protection and supported in their recovery from the impact of crimes committed against them.

This collective, trauma informed approach to Justice, minimises the harm caused by drugs, homelessness and poverty (and its related consequences to the person, family and the wider community) and has the potential to transform lives and reduce offending which in turn transforms communities. This collaborative response to local Justice is underpinned by priorities identified in “The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016; “Vision for Justice in Scotland (2022)”; “The National Strategy for Community Justice (revised 2022)”; the ‘Community Justice Strategy: Delivery Plan (revised 2024’; West Dunbartonshire Community Planning Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017 – 2027; and West Dunbartonshire’s HSCP Strategic Plan 2023-2026.

#### **WD CJP Partners**

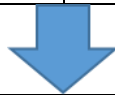
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ WD HSCP Chief Officer (Chair)</li> <li>➤ Chief Social Work Officer/Head of Service Children’s Health and Justice</li> <li>➤ Head of Service: Addictions, Mental Health and Learning Disability</li> <li>➤ Head of Service for Strategy and Transformation</li> <li>➤ Justice Social Work Manager</li> <li>➤ Community Justice Coordinator</li> <li>➤ Health Improvement Lead - Community Justice</li> <li>➤ Chief Officer Housing, Employability and Communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Police Scotland</li> <li>➤ Scottish Courts &amp; Tribunal Service</li> <li>➤ Scottish Fire &amp; Rescue Service</li> <li>➤ Scottish Prison Service</li> <li>➤ Third Sector: Chief Executive, WD Community &amp; Volunteering Services</li> <li>➤ Authentic Voices Representation</li> <li>➤ WD Working 4U Service manager</li> <li>➤ Chief Officer Education</li> <li>➤ Skills Development Scotland</li> <li>➤ West College Scotland</li> </ul>
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### **National Community Justice Strategic Planning & Improvement Arrangements**



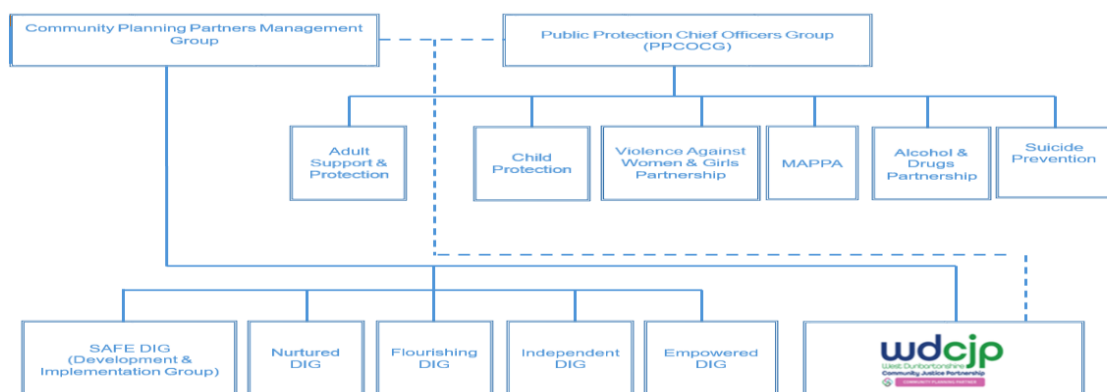


National Community Justice Delivery Plan	Community Justice Performance Framework	Community Justice Scotland Improvement Tool	Care Inspectorate Self-Evaluation Tool
The national delivery plan is designed to complement the Scottish Government's Vision for Justice in Scotland. The delivery plan will consequently drive improvement nationally towards the aims in the strategy and ultimately what is detailed in the Vision for Justice in Scotland.	The national performance framework sets out nationally determined outcomes which are to be achieved in each local authority area, along with national indicators which are to be used in measuring performance against these.	In order to be evaluative, local evidence should be collected and considered by community justice partners throughout the reporting year to support a more robust assessment of performance across the outcomes.	This guide was developed to support a partnership approach to undertaking self-evaluation. Partners will ensure that, individually and collectively, they consider how they contribute to the efficient and effective delivery of community justice



<b>West Dunbartonshire Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP)</b>
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## WD HSCP Community Justice Partnership Governance Arrangements



Commitments to the national and local strategy are supported and delivered by multi-agency (stakeholder partner) operational working groups with clear high-level objectives; terms of reference; data collection and analysis undertakings; a commitment to undertaking Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessments; and enhancing standard process/protocol and communication pathways with stakeholder partners.

### WD CJP Working Groups

- Custody to Community (Including Bail Supervision, National Voluntary Throughcare & Remand)
- Arrest Referral Scheme
- Prevention and Early & Effective Intervention (Including Throughcare, Diversion, Youth Justice/CARM, and Employability)
- Women in Justice
- Authentic Voices – Experts by Experience
- Caledonian Steering Group (Including performance and audit)
- MARAC Steering Group



## West Dunbartonshire Police Statistics 2014-2024

In common with most areas across Scotland, West Dunbartonshire has benefitted from a reduction in overall crimes over the last 10 years. However, West Dunbartonshire has remained above the Scottish figure for Total Crimes (rate per 10,000 of population for Scotland was 528 and for West Dunbartonshire it was 590). Whilst remaining above the Scottish average, West Dunbartonshire saw a slight decrease in the rate of total crimes between 21-22 and 22-23 (606 per 10,000 of population to 590 respectively). Despite the rate of total crimes reducing, two Crime Groups saw slight increases (Crimes of dishonesty and Damage and reckless behaviour). In 2022-2023, West Dunbartonshire recorded an increase of 50 (from 460 to 510) per 10,000 of the population in Total Offences, one Offence Type saw significant increase (Road Traffic Offences).

Crime group	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
<b>West Dunbartonshire</b>											
<b>Total Crimes</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>639</b>
Non-sexual crimes of violence	128	116	125	120	119	112	125	122	141	139	128
Sexual crimes	13	19	13	17	22	19	24	24	26	24	25
Crimes of dishonesty	235	205	201	205	188	207	186	162	164	169	218
Damage and reckless behaviour	131	129	120	119	108	109	104	97	95	100	105
Crimes against society	185	191	187	146	135	175	196	207	158	158	167
Coronavirus restrictions	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	124	21	0	0
<b>Total Offences</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>Not available</b>
Antisocial offences	309	271	245	233	176	189	175	177	155	135	<b>Not available</b>
Miscellaneous offences	32	29	38	26	25	21	27	32	30	25	<b>Not available</b>
Road traffic offences	608	381	384	308	238	237	278	287	275	350	<b>Not available</b>

West Dunbartonshire continues to have one of the highest levels of reported Domestic Abuse in Scotland. The prevalence rates of Domestic Abuse in WD are particularly concerning regarding the impact on the adult victim and children/young people. Domestic Abuse is recognised as a Gender Based Violence (GBV) and is tackled in Scotland by adopting a gendered analysis in our understanding of this crime. In WD Domestic Abuse overwhelmingly and disproportionately affects women, children and young people, with the majority of perpetrators male, and the majority of primary victims are women. This is reflective of the National and Global picture in the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Landscape. In 2023-2024 the rate of domestic abuse related crime per 10,000 of the population in West Dunbartonshire was 153, compared to 116 for Scotland. West Dunbartonshire has been in the top 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> position nationally for domestic abuse prevalence rates, typically much higher than Glasgow City and Edinburgh City.

Area	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
West Dunbartonshire	168	163	136	152	155	153	148	150	168	161	140	153
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>116</b>

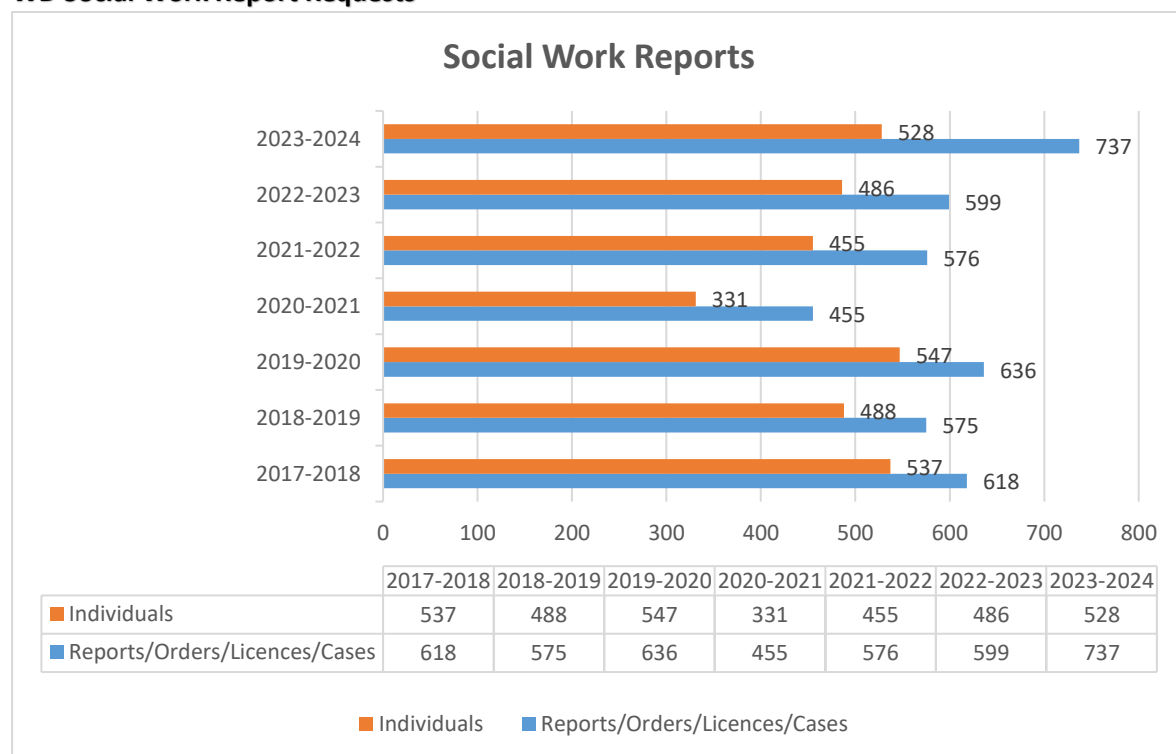
West Dunbartonshire currently has the second highest prevalence rates for domestic abuse per 10,000 of the population across Scotland. This is a particularly concerning statistic given the size of

the local authority and that WD have consistently been ranked 1st-3rd for the past 15 years. This would suggest that historically, the response to Domestic Abuse has been inadequate and hasn't gone far enough to protect adult and child victims.

### West Dunbartonshire's Justice Service Users Demographic Information 2017 – 2024

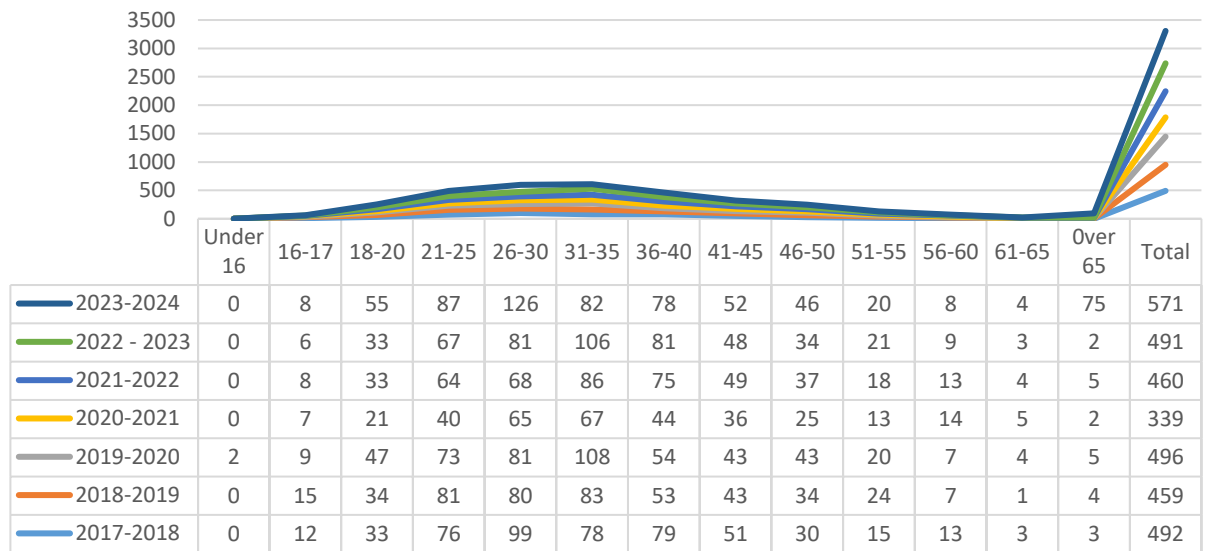
Those involved with justice services in WD are overwhelmingly White Scottish. There are significantly more males than females referred to justice services. For women involved with services the age group concentrate ranges from 21-50 years of age and for males 21-60 years of age. The number of social work reports produced has returned to pre-pandemic levels which is in line with expectations. There is also a noted steady increase in the number of women and men in conflict with the law and the trend data notes a steady increase in social work reports since 2017.

### WD Social Work Report Requests

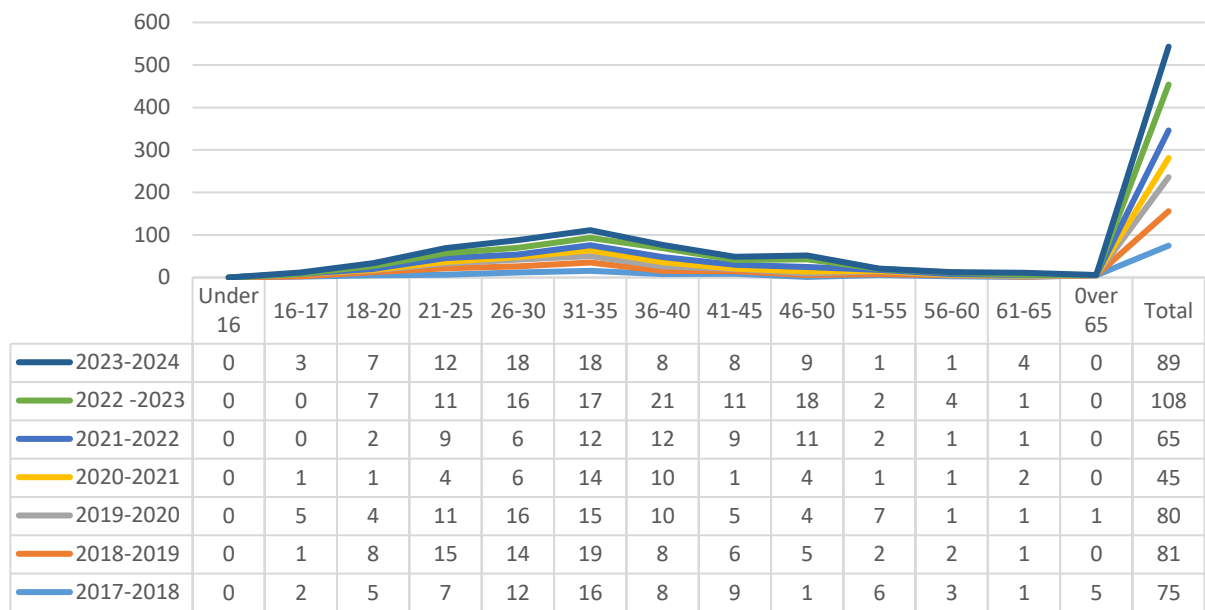


There has been a steady increase in the number of social work request since 2017. The number of requests is expected to increase in line with a presumption for community based sentences.

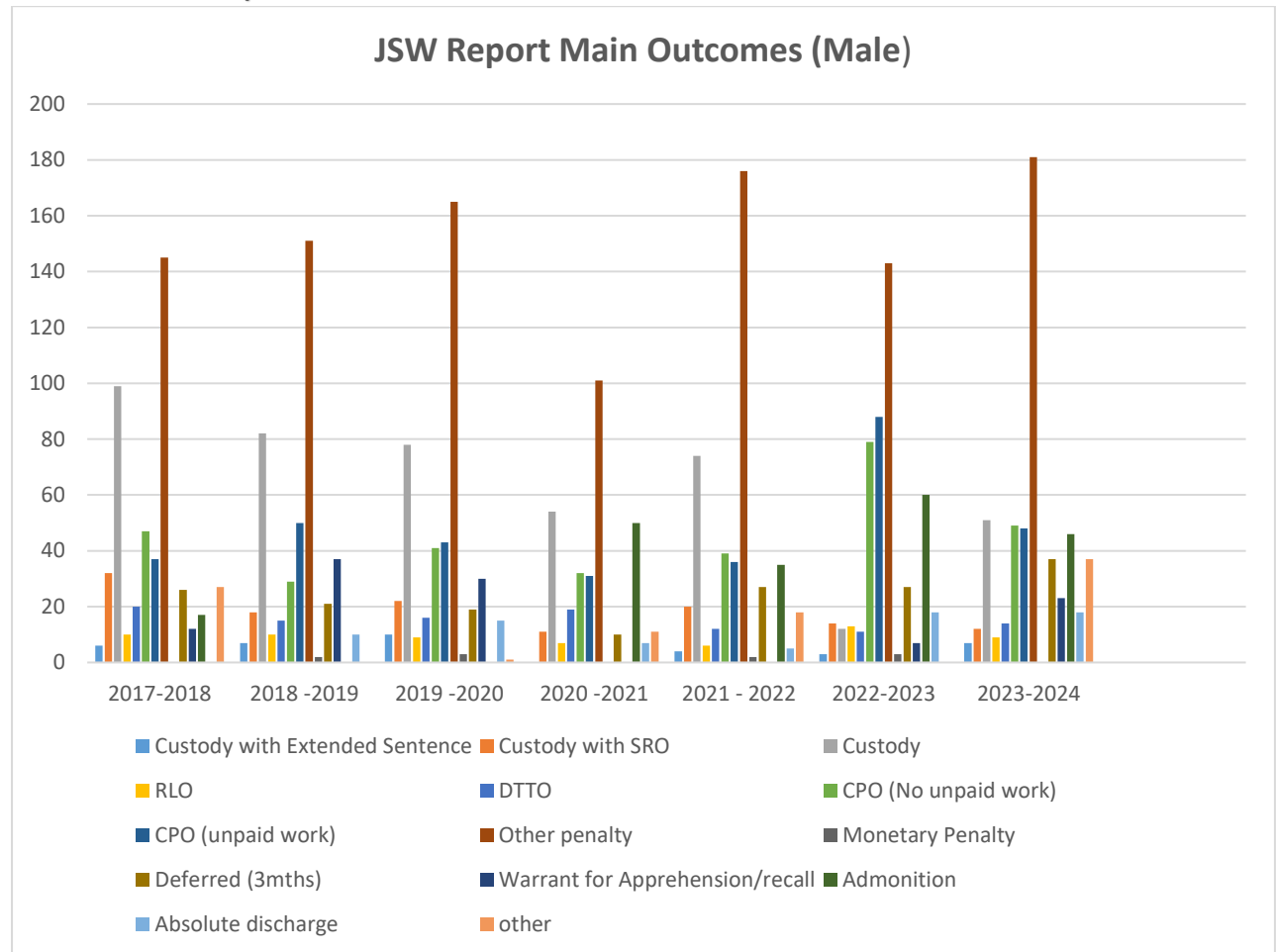
### Social Work Report by Age (males)

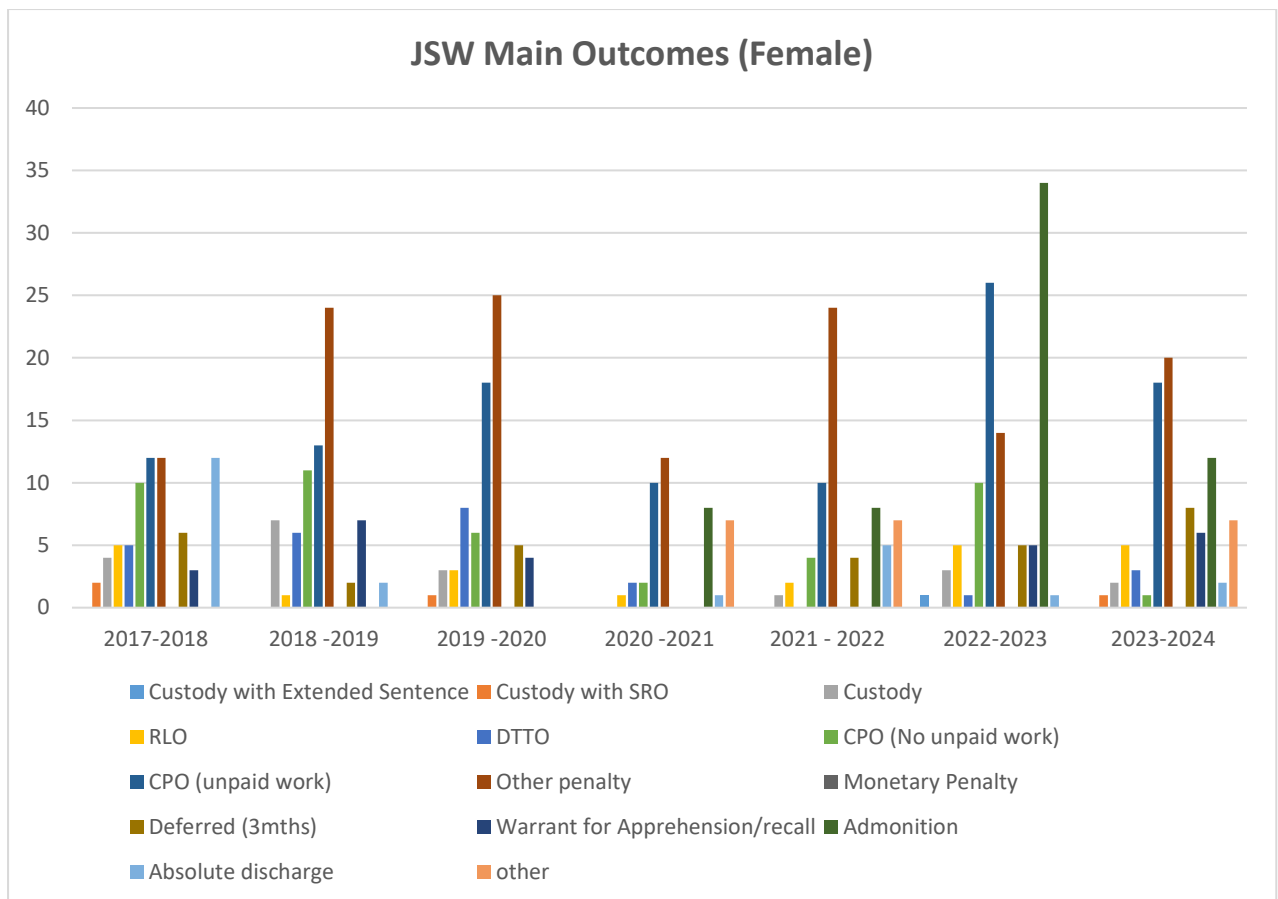


### Social Work Report by Age (female)



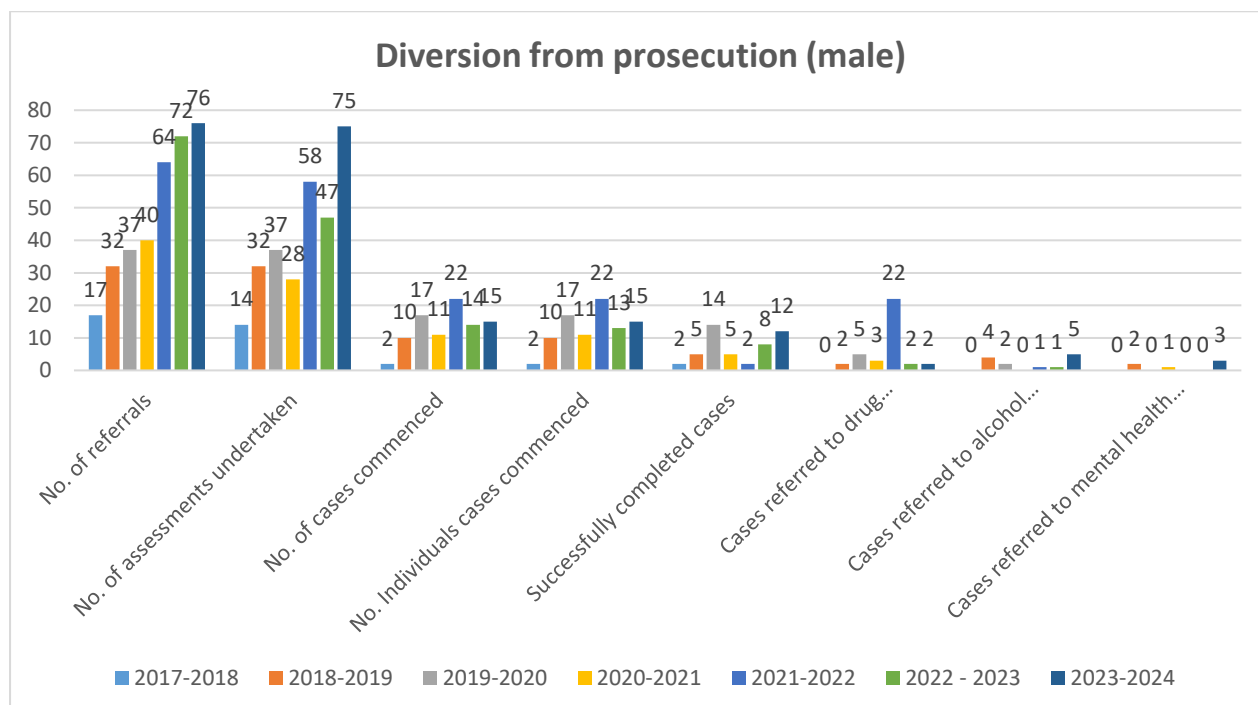
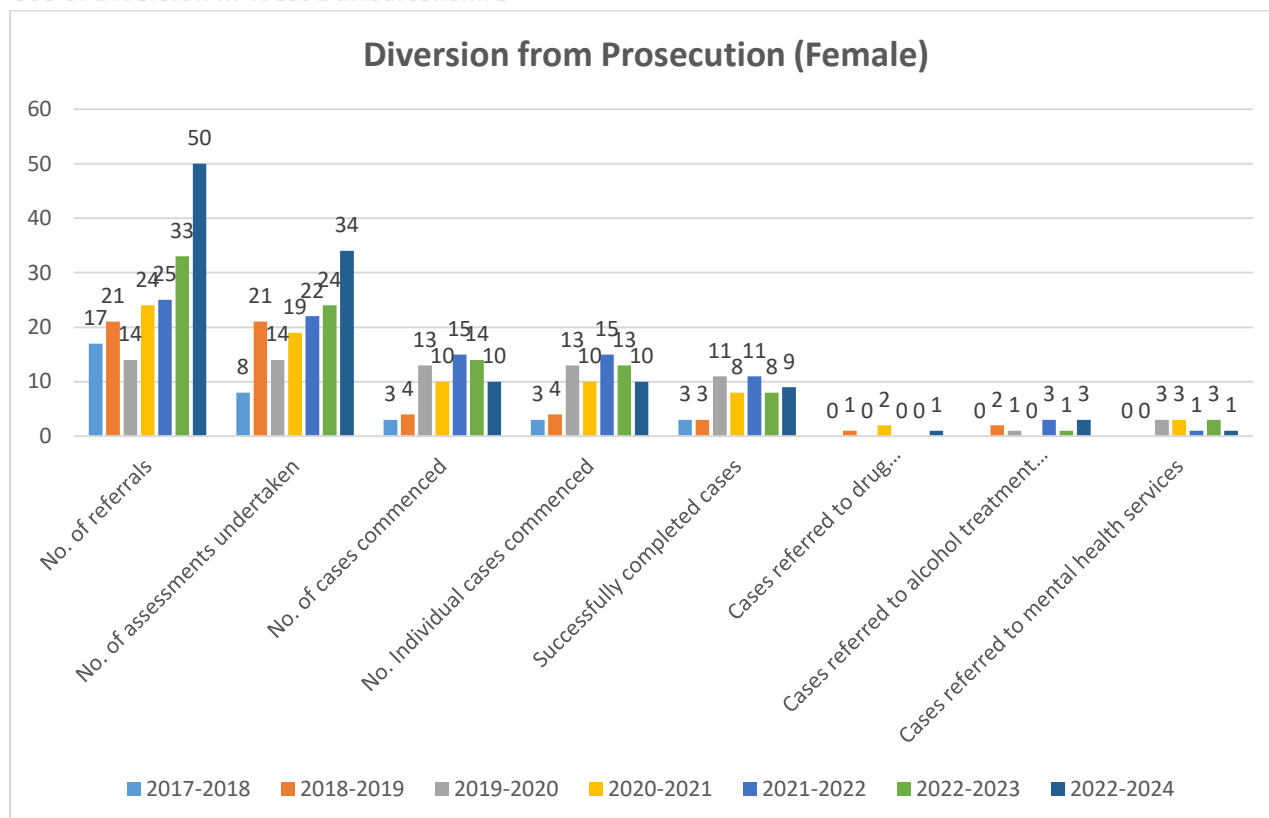
## WD Social Work Reports Main Outcomes





The main outcome is noted under “other penalty” – WD CJP need to understand this data better and the use of DTTO or CPO with activity requirements. Given the addiction and mental health profile in the locality and the intersectionality of offending behaviour WD would want to see an increase the use of DTTO and CPO with activity requirements as an alternative to custody. It is encouraging to see a decreasing trend in the use of custody based sentences for both men and women.

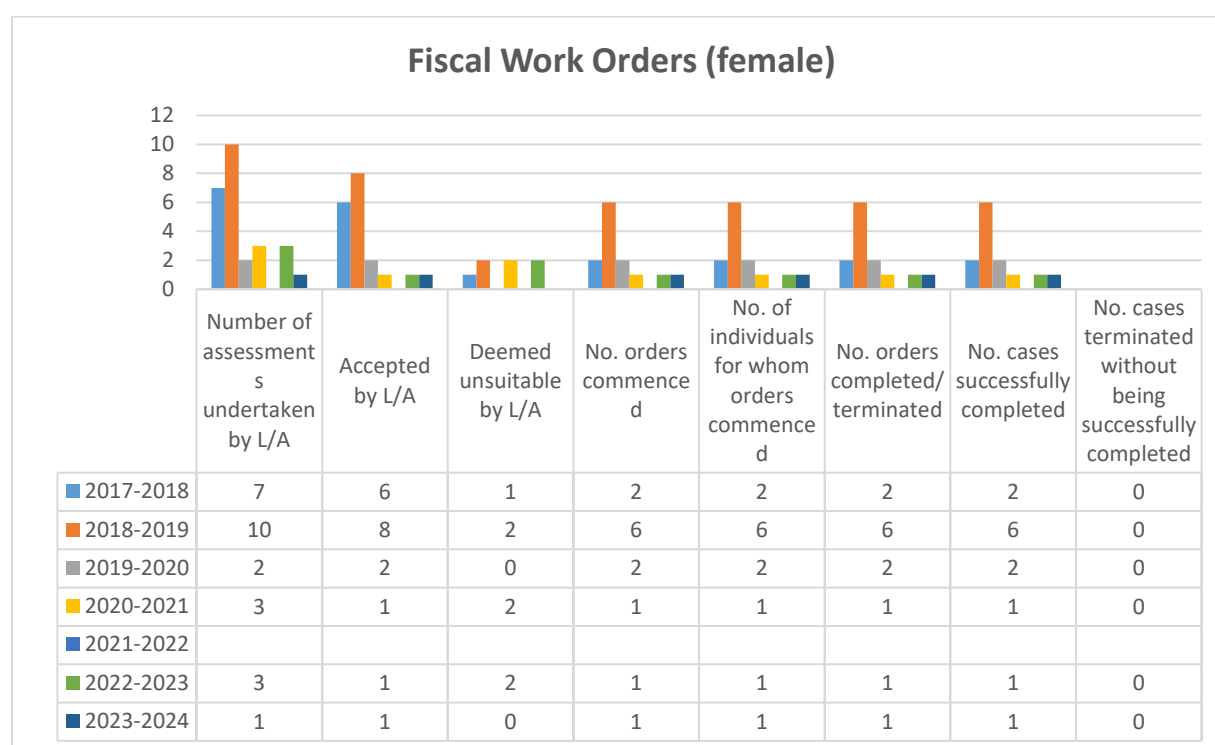
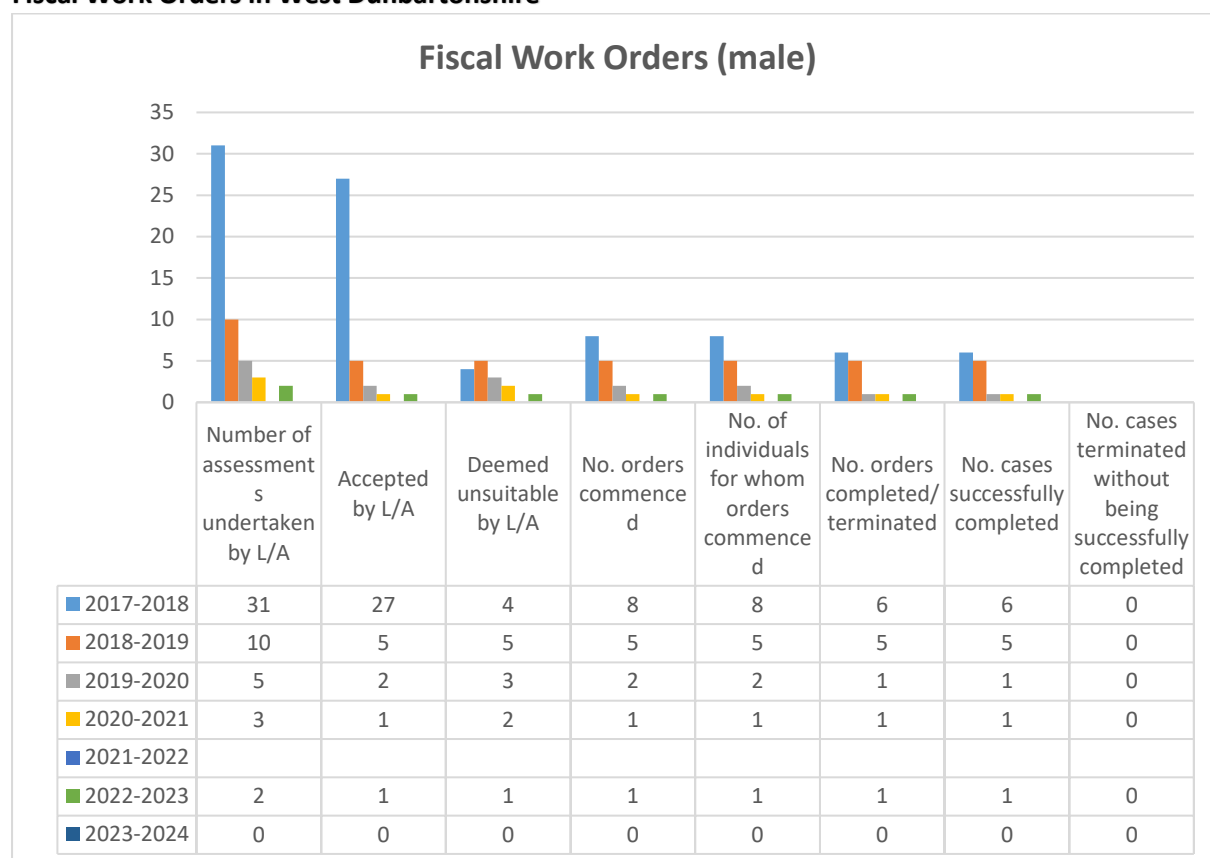
## Use of Diversion in West Dunbartonshire



There has been an increase in the number of referrals for diversion assessments for both males and females, however the referrals do not appear to translate to successfully completed cases. Despite increasing referrals, the number of assessments and cases commenced declined between 21-22 and 22-23 and again between 22-23 and 23-24. There are also very low numbers of diversions cases

referred to drug, alcohol or mental health services, again given the intersectionality of offending behaviour considering these risk factors, WD CJP requires to understand these data trends better. Understanding the use of diversion will be a priority area for this outcome improvement plan.

### Fiscal Work Orders in West Dunbartonshire



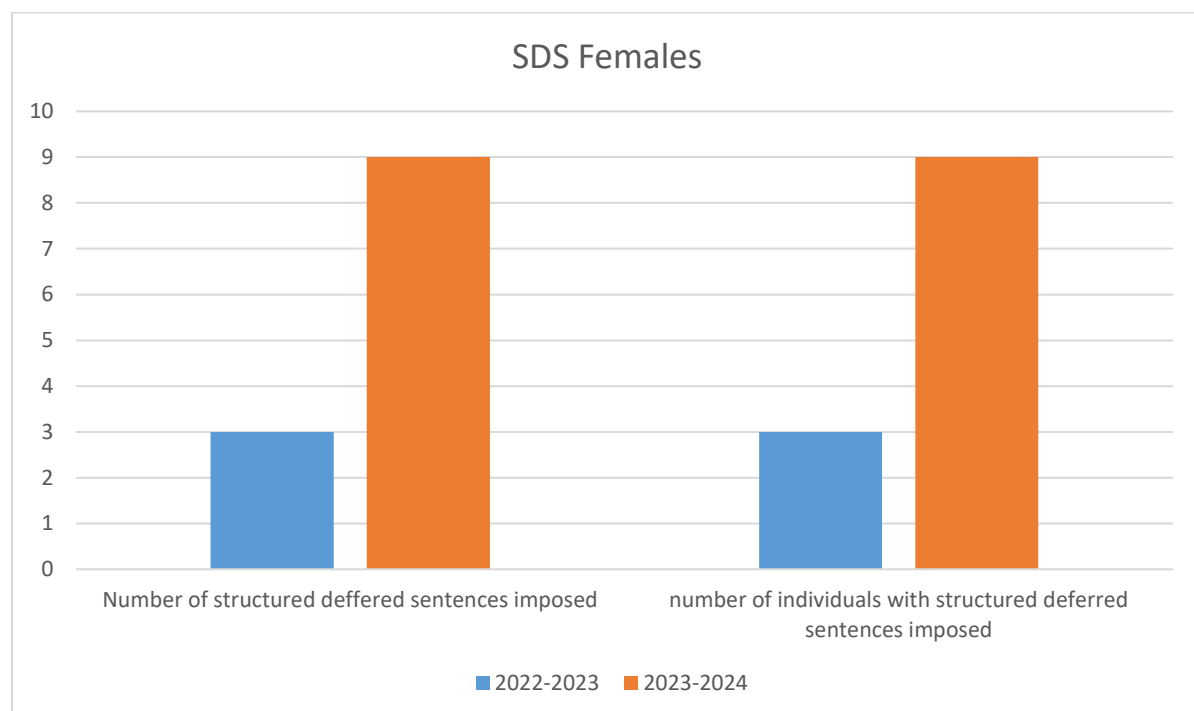
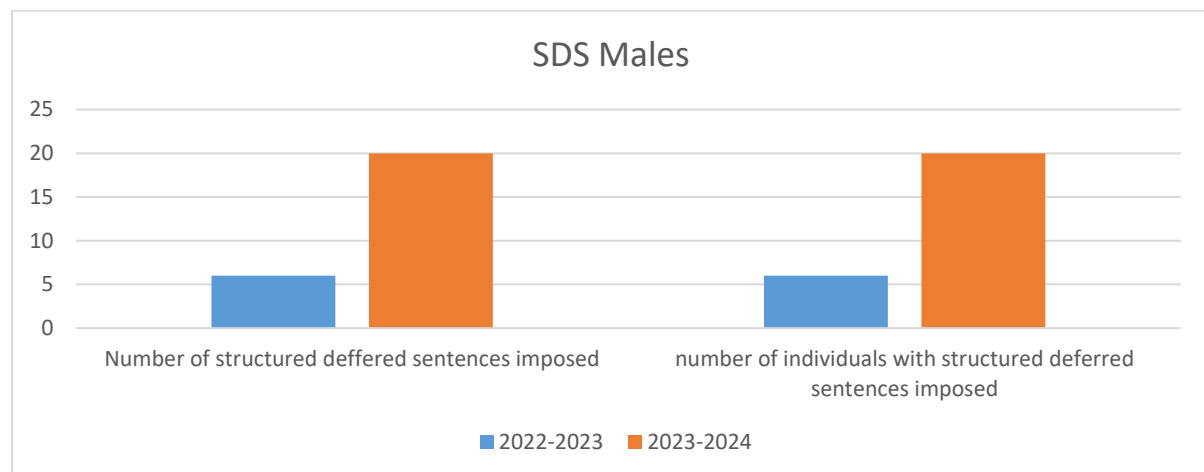


The number of fiscal work order has decreased significantly for both males and females since 2017. WD CJP will engage in discovery activity to better understand this trend and why there has been a decrease in the number of fiscal work orders given.

### Structured Deferred Sentences

\*There is no data for 2017-2018.

There were no structured deferred sentences given from 2019-2022.



There has been a significant increase in the number of Structured Deferred Sentence orders since 2022. This is a trend that is welcomed and will be monitored for the duration of the outcome improvement plan. It is hoped that there will be an increase in the number of SDSs in the coming years as an alternative to custody or other community-based sentences.

## West Dunbartonshire Local Outcome Improvement Planning Priorities & Delivery Plan 2024 - 2027

WD CJP is committed to improving and enhancing the justice landscape across the locality to advance service provision, aligning with the 4 National Aims and 13 Priority Action duties spotlighted in the National Strategy for Community Justice.

### National Aim 1: Optimise the use of diversion and intervention at the earliest opportunity.

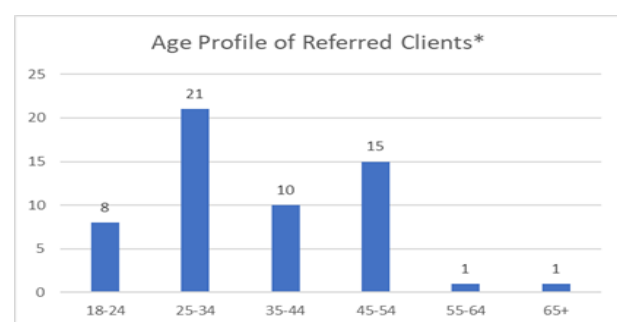
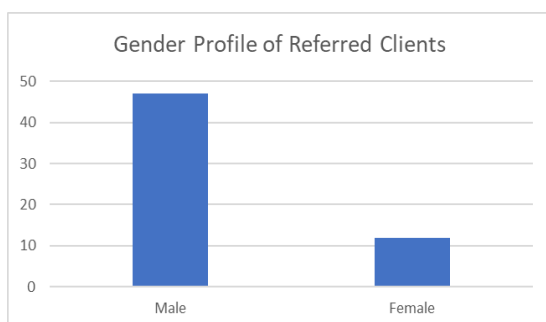
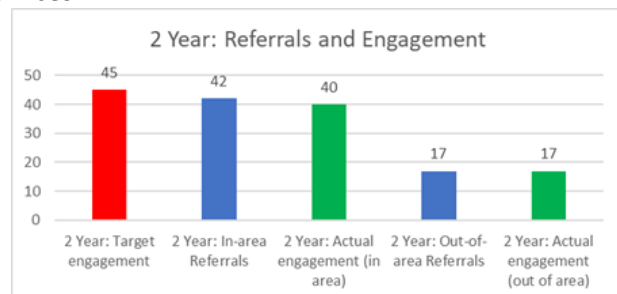
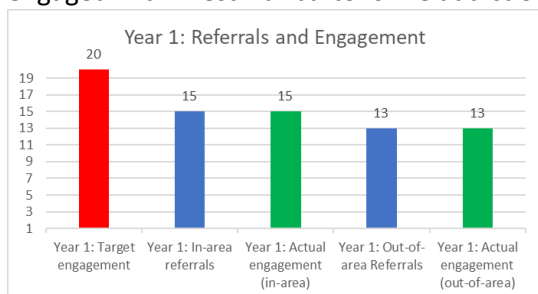
*Priority Action 1: Enhance intervention at the earliest opportunity by ensuring greater consistency, confidence in and awareness of services which support the use of direct measures and diversion from prosecution.*

*Priority Action 2: Improve the identification of underlying needs and the delivery of support following arrest by ensuring the provision of person-centred care within police custody and building upon referral opportunities to services including substance use and mental health services.*

### Arrest Referral Scheme

West Dunbartonshire Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) made an application to the Scottish Government Drug Deaths Task Force in 2020, for funding to deliver a project that would address the **Task Force's Priority 6: 'Ensuring Equivalence of Support for People in the Criminal Justice System'**. The application proposed the implementation of an Arrest Referral Service, which would provide on-call response to need for people in custody at Clydebank Custody Suite.

The Arrest Referral Scheme (ARS) operated in West Dunbartonshire from July 2021 and concluded in August 2023. Over the duration of the pilot, 61 referrals were made and of those referred 40 people engaged with West Dunbartonshire addiction services.



The learning from the pilot indicated:

- There was a lack of suitable people requiring a referral in custody.
- Consent wasn't always given for referrals from potentially suitable people in custody.
- Custody suite staff lacked awareness of the Arrest Referral Service and therefore referrals weren't offered at the point of arrest.

- ARS referrals couldn't always be prioritised on shift due to competing policing demands.
- Many people detained in custody were not West Dunbartonshire Residents and therefore did not meet the criteria for referrals to services offered in WD.

The National Strategy for Community Justice Delivery Plan has made a commitment to relaunch the ARS Scheme nationally in partnership with Police Scotland as the national lead agency. This refresh will address issues identified across all pilot areas inclusive of the issues particular to West Dunbartonshire.

#### **National Aim 1: Outcome Improvement Plan**

- WD CJP will undertake a SNSA (Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessment) to better understand the use of diversion across the locality. This will include an analysis of the use of diversion in a youth justice context.
- WD CJP will support the use of the Community Support Services Tool (CSST) for Sheriffs to improve confidence in community disposals.
- WD CJP will work in partnership with WD ADP to ensure commitments to embedding the MAT Standards within custody settings are met from the point of arrest, through prosecution and community sentence pathways.
- WD will engage with the National Relaunch of the Arrest Referral Scheme
- WD CJP will commit to the roll out of the Penumbra Mental Health resources specific to justice settings.
- WD CJP will establish multi-agency working groups that support the deliverables attached to National Aim 1:
  - Arrest Referral Scheme Working group
  - Prevention & Early & Effective Intervention Working Group (including the CARM steering group)

#### **National Aim 2: Ensure that robust and high-quality community interventions and public protection arrangements are consistently available across Scotland**

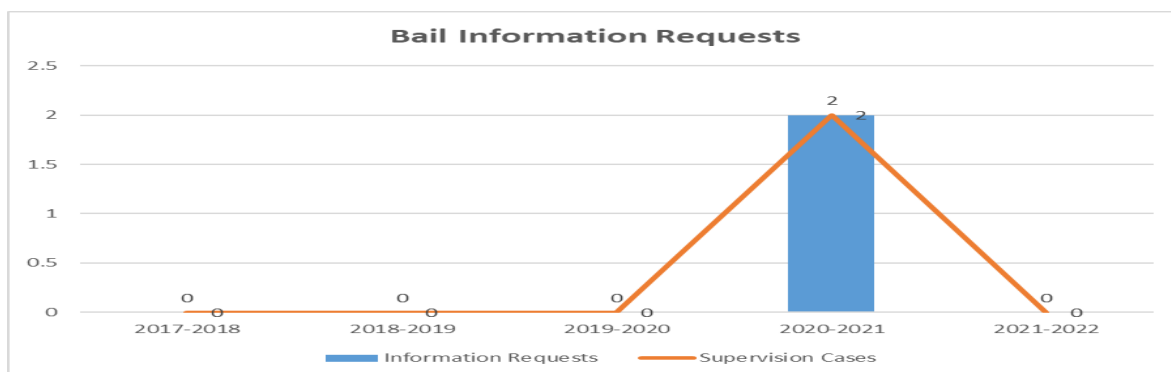
*Priority Action 3. Support the use of robust alternatives to remand by ensuring high quality bail services are consistently available and delivered effectively.*

*Priority Action 4. Strengthen options for safe and supported management in the community by increasing and widening the use of electronic monitoring technologies.*

*Priority Action 5. Ensure that those given community sentences are supervised and supported appropriately to protect the public, promote desistence from offending and enable rehabilitation by delivering high quality, consistently available, trauma-informed services and programmes.*

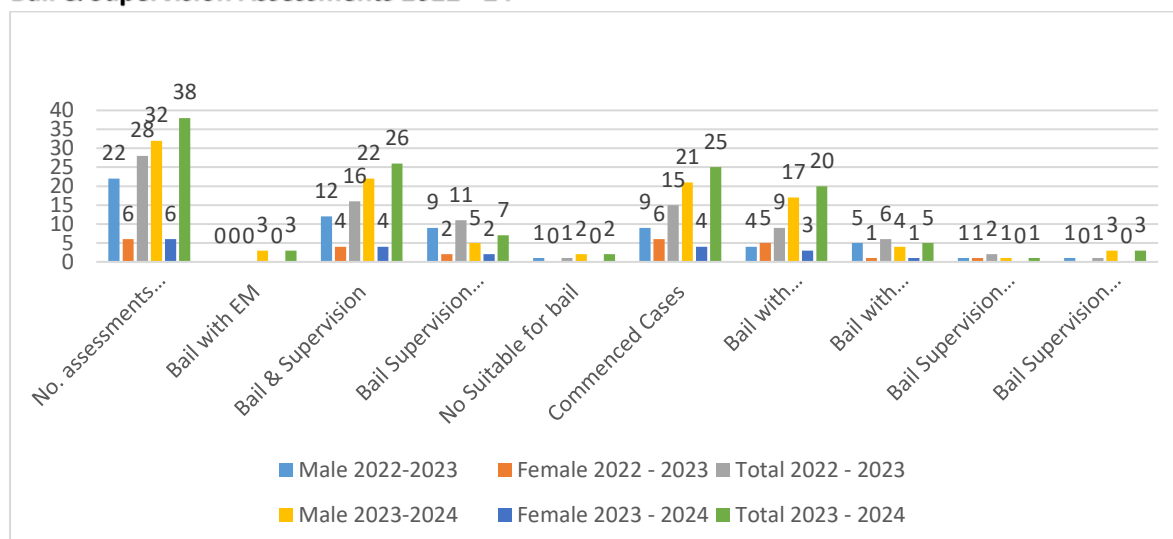
#### **Bail Assessment & Supervision**

Seven-year trend data indicates that WD Justice Services could not previously accommodate Bail and bail supervision undertakings in the locality. Justice staff have now been trained, and Bail Undertaking is now offered as part of the justice portfolio in WD. WD CJP are committed to better understanding the use and applicability of high-quality community interventions including the use of bail, electronic monitoring, restorative justice and trauma informed programmes.



WD has recently trained staff on Bail Supervision; process, protocols and undertakings. Recent legislative changes have changed the way Bail Supervision is recorded in aggregate returns since 2022.

### Bail & Supervision Assessments 2022 - 24

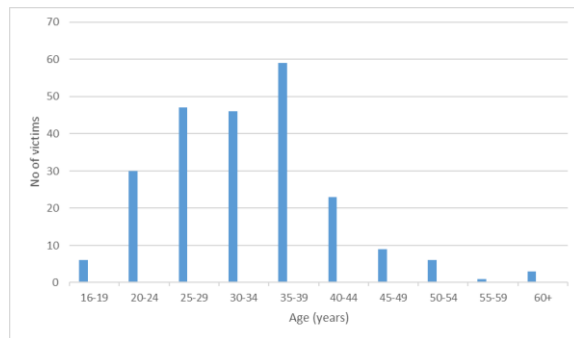
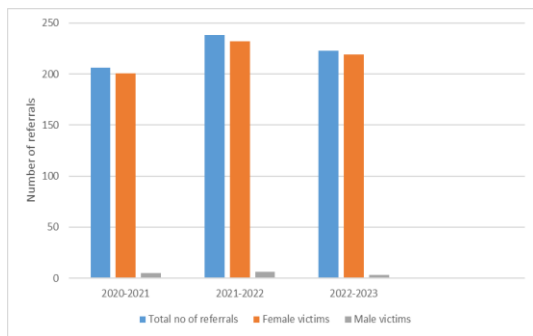


There has been an increase in bail and supervision assessments since 2022 although a distinct difference from the number of assessments requested to the number commenced. This data will be monitored for the duration of the outcome improvement plan and it is anticipated that there will be an increase in the number of bail supervision assessments and subsequent cases commenced.

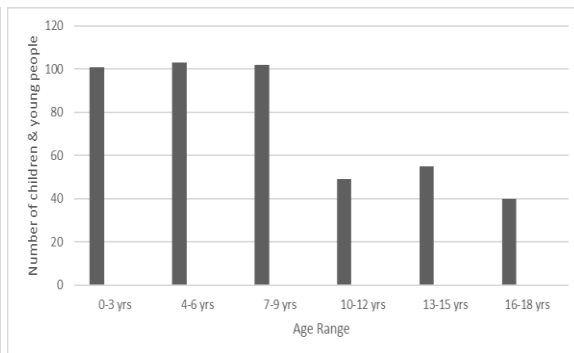
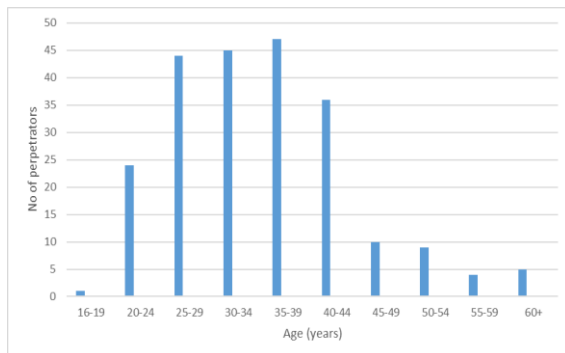
### West Dunbartonshire MARAC Statistics April 2022 – March 2023

As noted, domestic abuse is a significant concern in WD and something which we have invested heavily in to ensure that those given community sentences are supervised and supported appropriately to protect the public, promote desistance from offending and enable rehabilitation by delivering high quality, consistently available, trauma-informed services and programmes (priority action 5). WD HSCP have committed money from their reserves to fund the Caledonian System in the locality. It is hoped that this investment will significantly impact on the domestic abuse prevalence rates and improve adult and child victim safety.

There were 223 referrals made to WD MARAC for the highest risk cases of domestic abuse from April 2022 - March 2023. 219 of these cases have been female victims. This has shown a slight decrease from the previous year's referrals at 238.



The average age of victims is 32 years within a range of 17-62 years. In terms of age distribution for victims, with the highest concentration in the 35-39 years age bracket.



The average age of perpetrators is 35 years within a range of 18 to 73 years. In terms of age distribution for perpetrators, with the highest concentration in the 35-39 years age bracket. Although MARAC referrals are made in respect of the adult victim, there were 450 children and young people discussed at the meetings that were linked to these referrals.

## The Caledonian System

Due to consistently high Domestic Abuse prevalence rates, in 2023, WD HSCP procured the Caledonian System as part of a 'Whole Systems' response to tackling domestic abuse in the local authority. The Caledonian System is an integrated approach to addressing domestic abuse. It combines a court-ordered programme for men, aimed at changing their behaviour, with support services for women and children. Key principles underpinning the Caledonian System

The development of the Caledonian System was informed by research and best practice evidence on what works in preventing domestic violence. Among the key theoretical and practical guiding principles underpinning the system are:

- A 'systems approach' - the combination of services for men, women and children. Working together with the whole family is central to the Caledonian System's ultimate aim of reducing the risk of harm to women and children. Research is clear that working with men in isolation is potentially dangerous in terms of raising the risk of harm to women partner - the systems approach also encompasses being embedded in a wider system of multi-agency working as a pre-requisite for successful intervention.
- Working towards 'good lives' - in working with men, 'the system' does not focus only on their deficits, but also on their personal goals for a 'good life' and how they could achieve these as a means of motivating them towards positive change.
- An 'ecological model' of behaviour - 'ecological models' of behaviour, including abusive behaviour, argue that behaviour is influenced at various levels, from the individual, to the

familial, to broader social and cultural contexts. This model influences how the programme works with men - for example, examining social stereotypes about gender roles as well as exploring the specific factors in individual men's lives that may have contributed to their propensity to abuse, such as their own exposure to violence and their use of alcohol and drugs.

WD Justice Social Work has trained 12 qualified staff on the Caledonian System and men's programme. The team have Caledonian 2-day introductory training which was delivered by the Community Justice Scotland, National Caledonian Delivery Team. This training covered both an overview of the integrated Caledonian System as well as the key aspects of screening men for the Caledonian Systems programme.

In December 2023, the National Team returned and delivered the 4-day Case managers Training to the majority of qualified social workers within the team. This was vital in equipping the team with the necessary overview and skills in delivering the 14 dedicated sessions to men, in preparation for their inclusion in the Caledonian group work programme.

In April 2024, 4 staff from the team (including a manager, 2 social workers and a CJO) attended the 5-day Caledonian Group Worker training in Glasgow which again was delivered by the National Team and equipped the team to deliver the 26 week Caledonian Men's programme and subsequent maintenance sessions that is required, prior to the conclusion of their order.

Since this time both justice staff have been attending various training sessions from the above noted suite of training, and this will continue into 2025. This will offer the existing staff team the opportunity to undertake this training and provide resilience within the team both in relation to case managers and group workers as well as within the various roles included within the Caledonian System.

### **WD Women's Safety and Support Service 2021-2024**

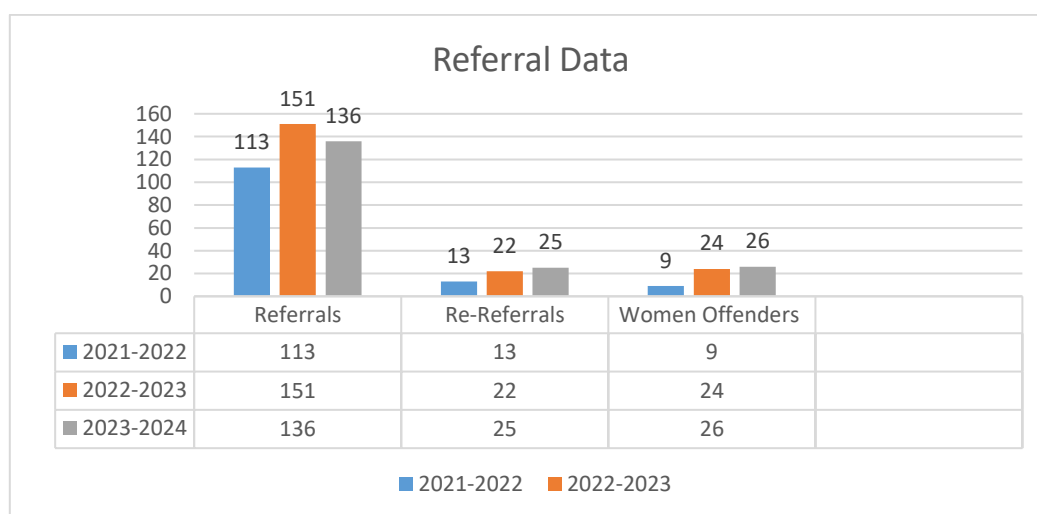
The Women's Safety and Support Service (WSSS) are part of Justice Services and provide a range of assistance for women who need support as a result of currently experiencing or having experienced Domestic Abuse or any other form of gender-based violence. Women are automatically offered support at the point of justice court report for Domestic Abuse. The WSSS work in partnership to assess, manage and reduce the risks posed to women and children. The WSSS is a partner in the 'Caledonian System' providing services for women victims and children & young people.

The service:

- Works with women and children to plan person-centred safety using a trauma informed, strengths based, and empowerment approach.
- Works in partnership with women, children and other services to support understandings of the impact of Domestic Abuse and support with recovery plans offering 1:1 and group support.
- Works with strategic partnerships to plan and meet locality needs and national outcomes for all forms of gender-based violence against women.
- Provides information events and training based on locality needs.

**WSSS Service Outcomes:**

Outcome 1	Work with established referral pathways. Proactively contact women to offer advice and support and promote engagement. Work in partnership with referrers to promote engagement of women and identify women offenders who have additional vulnerabilities as a result of VAWG.
Outcome 2	Work with national risk assessments to identify and plan with women person centred interventions in partnership with other agencies and multi-agency forums e.g. MARAC, MATAC DSDAS. Promote sensitive routine enquiry. Work intensively to support women offenders through complex trauma informed intervention.
Outcome 3	Develop and support recovery plans addressing wider impact of VAWG. Individual and group support with women to establish emotional recovery and community reintegration and engagement. Support women to understand impact on children and provide strengths-based approach for parent and children's recovery.
Outcome 4	Develop and deliver awareness raising events. Work in partnership with specialist services and WD CJP & VAWGP. Deliver SARA 3 training. Develop and deliver online and in person education opportunities. Develop and disseminate good practice guide for commercial sexual exploitation awareness.

**WSSS Referral Data 2021-2024****WSSS Service Support:**

In total 72 women received direct, ongoing supports throughout the recovery model across 2023-2024. This was the same as previous year however, overall engagement increased by 23%. In addition, 20 women offenders became actively engaged which was 98% of progressed women offender referrals. 71 cases were recorded by age from available information. 87% of women were aged between 21 and 40 years of age. The Service undertakes Safe Lives assessments as well as contributes to SARA V3 risk assessment focused on perpetrator risk, victim vulnerabilities as a structured professional judgement tool to assess the level and immanency of risk and priorities relevant factors associated with risk. The service works intensively to support women offenders through complex trauma informed intervention.



Group work has demonstrated significant success. Eight women have engaged regularly and have shown improvements in all 11 indicators of well-being when assessed in week 1 and week 7. Service user involvement directs the focus of intervention and women's feedback has demonstrated an increase in empowerment, confidence, domestic abuse awareness and a reduction in isolation enabling women to make decisions for their and their children's safety and well-being.

#### National Aim 2: Outcome Improvement Plan

- WD CJP will complete an SNSA for all community-based sentences to better understand the local landscape and support the development of improvement planning activity - ensuring victim safety as paramount.
- WD CJP will work closely with WD ADP to ensure that the MAT Standards are considered and adhered to through all community interventions in particular to this priority action through prosecution and at court.
- WD CJP will work closely with the VAWGP and MARAC to ensure commitment to the "Equally Safe" Strategy - in particular the undertakings of *Quality Standard No.4: "Men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response."*
- WD CJP will establish multi-agency working groups that supports the deliverables attached to National Aim 2:
  - The Caledonian System Steering Group
  - Women & Justice Working Group
  - MARAC Steering Group

#### National Aim 3. Ensure that services are accessible and available to address the needs of individuals accused or convicted of an offence.

*Priority Action 7. Enhance individuals' access to health and social care and continuity of care following release from prison by improving the sharing of information and partnership-working between relevant partners.*

*Priority Action 8. Ensure that the housing needs of individuals in prison are addressed consistently and at an early stage by fully implementing and embedding the Sustainable Housing on Release for Everyone (SHORE) standards across all local authority areas.*

*Priority Action 9. Enhance individual's life skills and readiness for employment by ensuring increased access to employability support through effective education, learning, training, career services and relevant benefit services*

*Priority Action 10. Enhance community integration and support by increasing and promoting greater use of Voluntary Throughcare and third sector services.*

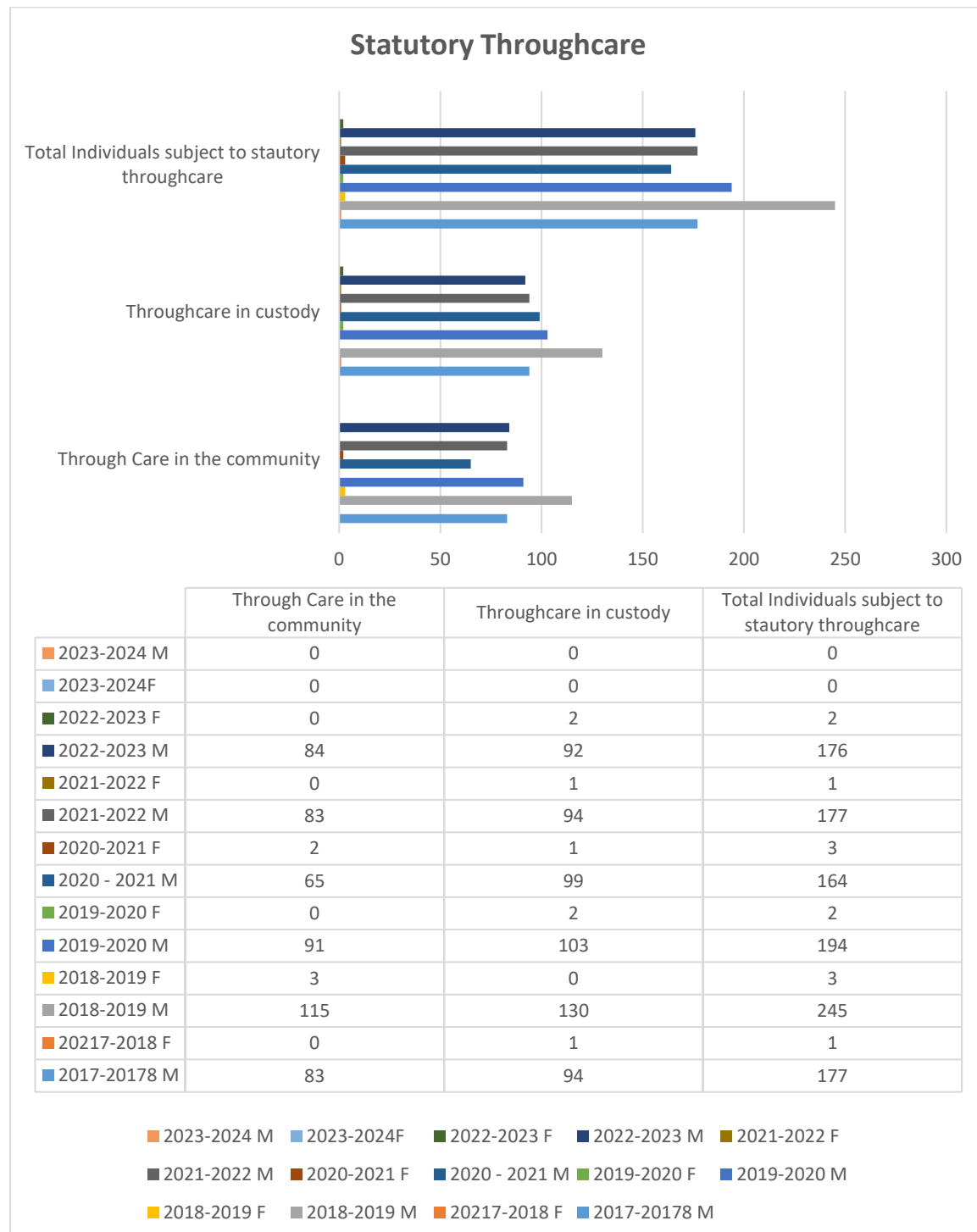
Priority actions 7 and 10 specifically refer to enhancing transitions for individuals re-entering the local community following time in prison. To enhance individuals access to health and social care continuity, WD have engaged in activity to enhance information sharing between SPS and local partners. Work is ongoing to ensure the delivery of MAT standards upon release, and WD CJP aim to work with wider stakeholders to ensure that custody to community pathways are built upon a whole systems framework, are needs-led, trauma informed, and person centred.

An analysis of the data in relation to those receiving statutory and voluntary throughcare has indicated that the number of individuals subject to statutory throughcare reduced during covid and in the years following the pandemic but have remained stable since. Since the Covid-19 pandemic there has been a changing landscape across the Scottish Prison Service (SPS). The re-establishment

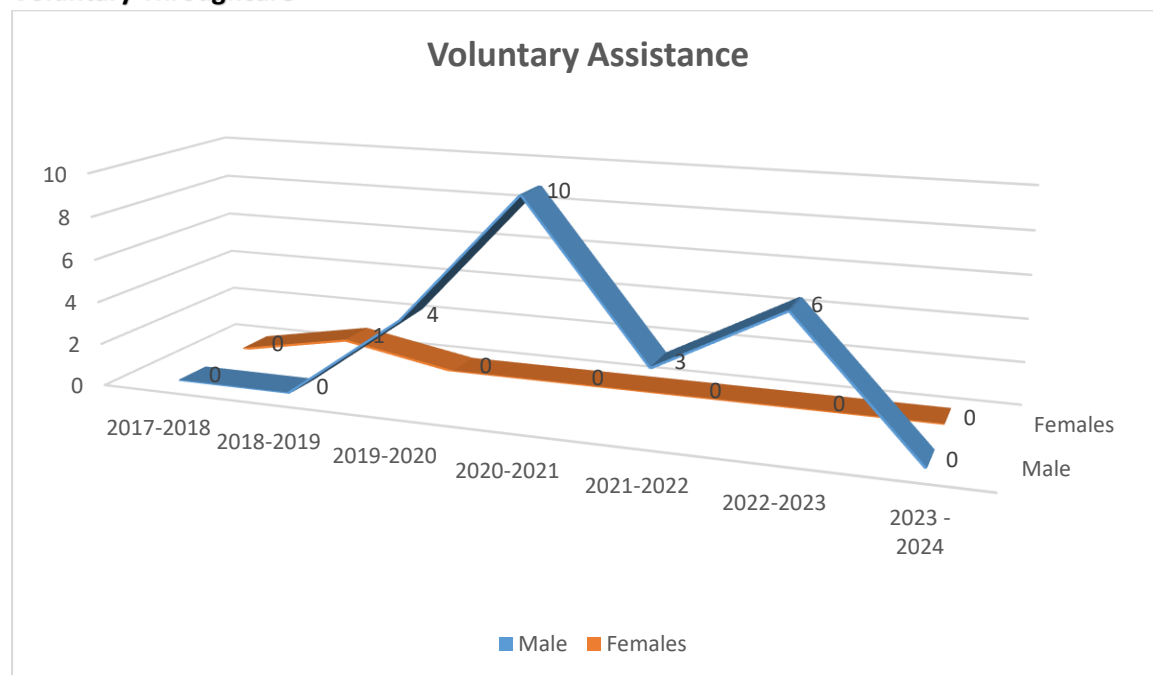
and development of process and protocol has created an opportunity for WD CJP to be an integral part of development and design. Communication with SPS have endorses a joint commitment to ensure that each WD resident within any custodial setting will receive a continuity of health and social care that is inclusive of the MAT Standards.

### Statutory & Voluntary Throughcare

In 2018-2019/2019-2020 there was the highest total number of individuals subject to statutory throughcare. Both through care in the community and in custody saw higher numbers than any other year.



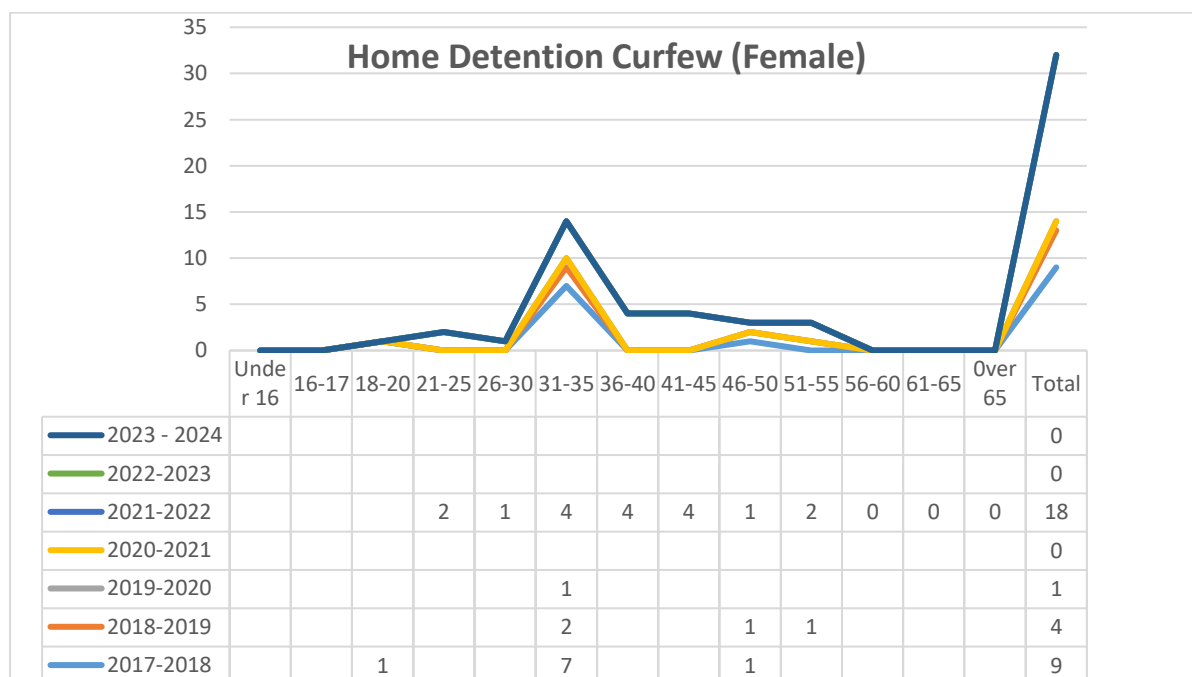
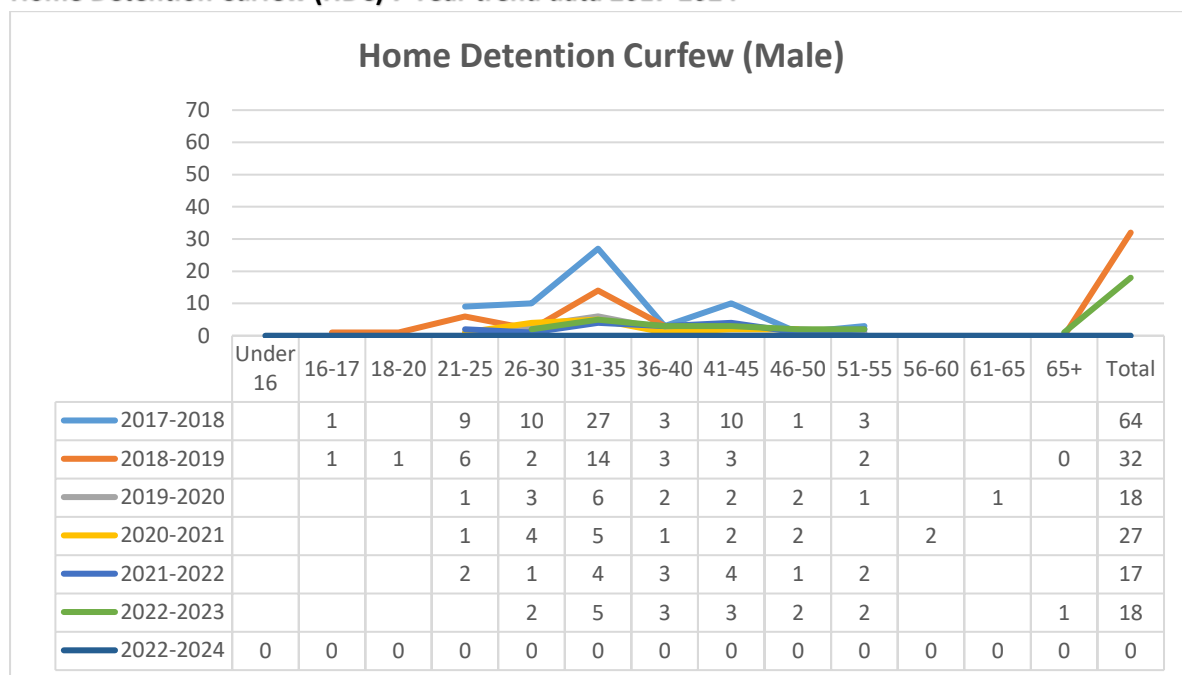
## Voluntary Throughcare



Due to ongoing changes with the Scottish Prison Service - in particular, custody sentencing guidelines, use of remand, and voluntary throughcare - WD CJP requires to better understand the complexities of the local landscape with particular consideration to stakeholder partner's strategic undertakings and commitments. There are significant projected changes to Voluntary Throughcare (VT) provision with remand populations being offered VT for the first time – WD CJP will support the national agenda regarding VT in the context of the Custody to Community Working Group with a view to significantly improve the uptake of VT offered to residents serving short term sentences. WD CJP will also seek to understand why no women have up took the offer of voluntary throughcare and seek to redress this.

To ensure that WD resident's health and social care needs are met legally and lawfully, Information Sharing Protocols (ISPs) are under consideration and WD will ensure that they are embedded as part of local process.

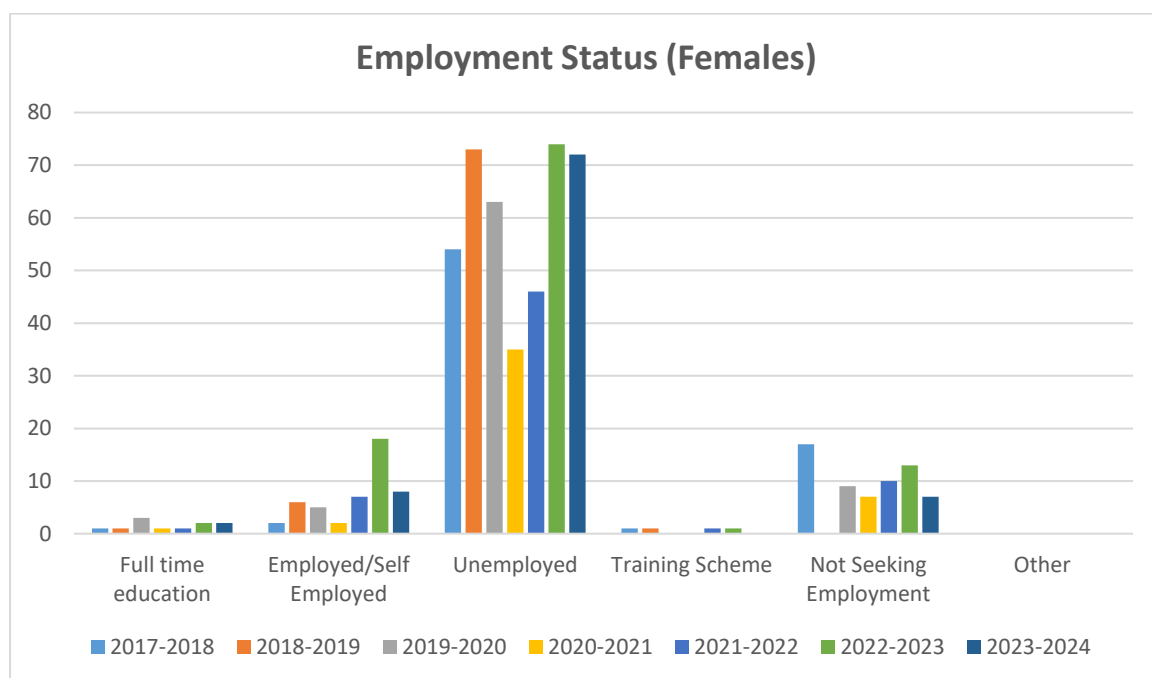
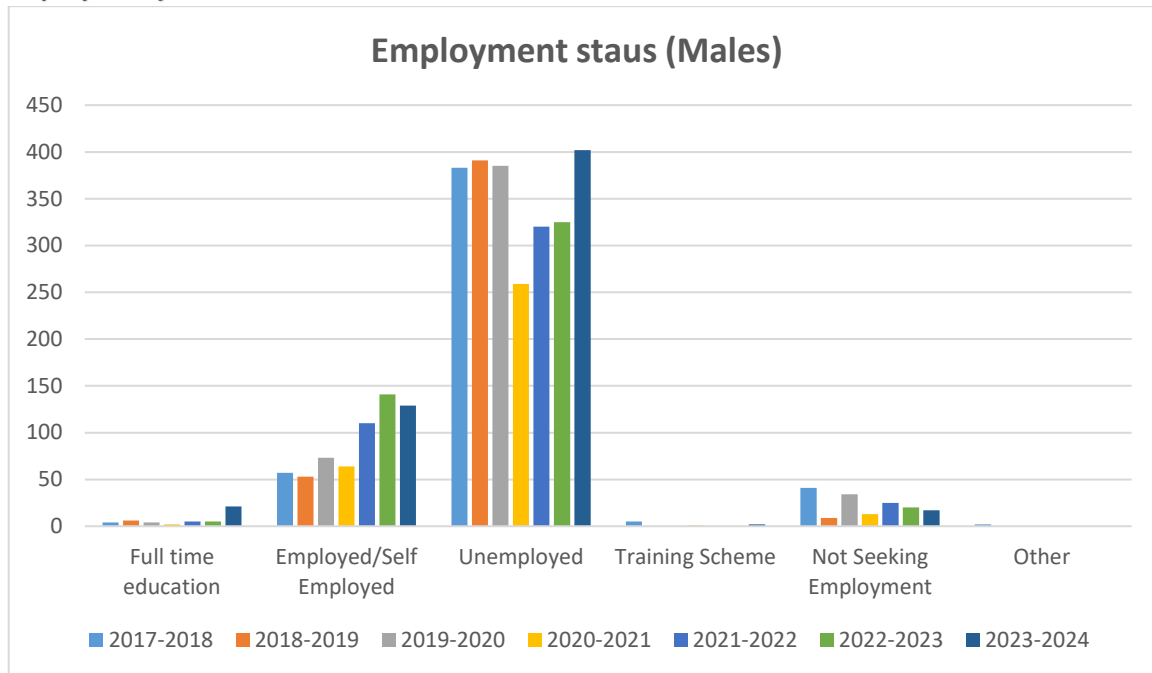
## Home Detention Curfew (HDC) 7 Year trend data 2017-2024



HDC will be considered as a Strategic Needs & Strengths Assessment to better understand the data trends over the past 7 years and inform outcome improvement planning priorities. This will be considered in the context of ongoing policy and legislative changes to early and planned release from prison.

There is an ongoing national review and implementation of SHORE Standards. WD CJP is committed to understanding the learning from this pilot and will ensure that the learnings are embedded at a local level where appropriate with consideration to the National and Local housing crisis.

## Employability



The data shows that the number of males and females engaged with justice services were overwhelmingly unemployed across each year from 2017-2024. There is a distinct lack of those engaged with a training scheme or engaged with full time education. WDC Working 4U service has commissioned The Lennox Partnership to deliver specialist support to justice service users. The service is trauma informed, needs – led and supports service users at every stage of their employability journey. WD CJP and The Lennox Partnership have agreed on required data sets and a commitment to impact reporting.

### National Aim 3: Outcome Improvement Plan

- WD CJP will undertake an SNSA with key partners to inform a Standard Operating Protocol to support the continuity of resident's health and social care needs when moving from a custody to community setting. WD CJP will assume a "whole person – whole system" approach to ensure that all needs are met.
- WD CJP will work in partnership with housing partners to ensure safe and secure housing from custody to community in line with the SHORE standards. An SNSA will be undertaken to better understand the use of HDC in the locality. WD Housing will share data contributing to justice outcome improvement planning activity.
- WD CJP engage in discovery activity regarding the needs of those on remand. This will be informed by NHS GGC 'Community Justice & Remand population Health Needs Assessment'
- WD CJP will work closely with WD ADP and WD HSP to better understand the Custody to Rehabilitation landscape and ensure that the needs are met for this cohort of justice service users.
- WD CJP will work in partnership with WDC Working 4UThe Lennox Partnership to ensure that the needs of justice services users are met regarding employability/training.
- WD CJP will establish multi-agency working groups that supports the deliverables attached to National Aim 3:
  - Custody to Community Working Group
  - Women & Justice Working Group
  - Authentic Voices working Group

### National Aim 4. Strengthen the leadership, engagement, and partnership working of local and national community justice partners.

*Priority Action 11. Deliver improved community justice outcomes by ensuring that effective leadership and governance arrangements are in place and working well, collaborating with partners and planning strategically.*

*Priority Action 12. Enhance partnership planning and implementation by ensuring the voices of victims of crime, survivors, those with lived experience and their families are effectively incorporated and embedded.*

**Priority Action 13.** *Support integration and reduce stigma by ensuring the community and workforce have an improved understanding of and confidence in community justice.*

### National Aim 4: Outcome Improvement Plan:

- WD CJP will ensure governance over the activity of the working/steering groups. Each working/steering will develop a clear term of reference, data collection and analysis requirements and report directly to WD CJP.
- WD CJP will work collaboratively with local strategic partnerships, planning groups, and those with lived experience.
- WD CJP will commit to hosting regular Information and Awareness raising events; develop communications pathways; and engage in other profile-raising activity, to help stakeholder partners better understand the benefits to a trauma informed approach to justice.
- WD CJP will commit to training all justice staff to a trauma skilled level.

- WD CJP will establish a multi-agency working group that supports the deliverables attached to National Aim 4:
  - Authentic Voices Working Group

To ensure that Outcome Improvement Planning has been impactful WD CJP will undertake self-assessment at the end of the reporting period in 2027 to measure success and contribute to continuous quality improvement and service development activity.