

a better view...

5BP Criminal Justice Liaison Team
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What is Liaison and Diversion

- **‘Liaison and Diversion’ is a process whereby people of all ages passing through the criminal justice system are assessed and those with mental health, learning disability, substance misuse and other vulnerabilities are identified as soon as possible in the offender pathway.**
- Identified offenders are provided with access to appropriate services including, but not limited to, mental and physical health care, social care, substance misuse treatment and safeguarding.
- **Information gained from assessments is shared with relevant criminal justice agencies to enable key decision makers to make more informed decisions on diversion, charging, case management and sentencing.**
- Diversion should be interpreted in its wider sense, referring to both diversion ‘out of’ and ‘within’ the criminal justice system.

(Offender Health Collaborative 2012)

The Service

Criminal Justice Liaison Team

- *We are a multi-agency service for people with mental health issues or intellectual disability who come into contact with the criminal justice system*
- *We work closely with the Police, the Probation Service, the local Courts, local Prisons and a range of health and social care providers*
- *We act as a key link between Health, Social Services and Criminal Justice Agencies*
- *Our work involves liaison, information sharing, screening for services, undertaking mental health assessments, diversion and training.*
- *We are part of the National Liaison and Diversion Development Network*

Why does it work?

- Joint initiative between local health, social care and CJ providers
- Provide compassionate expertise at times of acute vulnerability
- Committed to improving service user experience and outcomes
- Assertive approach to inclusion
- Presence at Police Custody, Court, MAPPA, CPA, Discharge/Release, Community Safety Initiatives

What makes our service great

- Compassion
- Shared values
- Commitment
- Curiosity
- Listening
- Desire to learn
- Positive attitude to challenges
- Respect
- Personal Recognition
- Expertise
- Ability to communicate
- Timely Intervention
- Good formulation
- Information Sharing
- Joined up working
- Multi agency/multi disciplinary approach
- Local knowledge and understanding of roles, pathways and processes

Benefits to Individuals

- Validation
- Engagement
- Help, Support & Advice
- Psycho-education
- Opportunity for Change
- Re-engagement with Community
- Inclusion & Integration
- Access to Appropriate Service
- Improved Outcomes
- Reduced Offending

Benefits to services and commissioners

- Options
- Knowledge & Understanding
- Psycho-education
- Collaborative Approach
- Multi Disciplinary Team
- Shared Ownership of Complexity
- Improved Outcomes
- Reduction in Offending
- Cost benefits

Case Studies

- Warrington family came to the attention to the criminal justice system for shoplifting.
- Further exploration identified poor physical health, learning difficulty, learning disability, mental health problems and financial difficulty. All of which were unsupported in the community.
- Extensive social need was also identified.

Outcome

Learning disability identified and documented

Linked into and supported to access appropriate services

Improvement in social circumstances

No incident of reoffending to date

Case Study

- Family known to IOM with prolific low level offences
- One male sibling heavily engaged with the family culture was identified to have a learning disability and associated vulnerabilities
- CJLT were able to support criminal justice agencies to adjust their approach to maximise positive outcomes

Progression

- Dedicated Learning Disability Practitioners
- Transition & Engagement Project (17-25 yrs)
- IAPT Project

Questions