

SRC STRATEGY AND WORKPLAN

FOR SCOTTISH PRISONS RECOVERY DEVELOPMENT 2021-2024

Our vision is to create a cultural and operational change across the national Scottish Prison Service (SPS) estate towards recovery from alcohol and drug dependency. This will be achieved by building understanding and implementation of a recovery focused approach which benefits prisoners, regime and healthcare management and builds coordinated and connected recovery pathways throughout SPS and our communities. Scotland leads the world in the progress we have made in our 'Recovery from Within' activities. The collaboration between SPS and Scottish Recovery Consortium (SRC) has achieved much and has provided us a platform to develop the prison recovery even further. At a time when Scotland is beleaguered by the challenge of reducing drug deaths and improving treatment provision this paper maps out the opportunity, we have together to make significant and lasting positive change across the Scottish prisons recovery network and amplify our innovative practice globally.

If recovery is prioritized alongside current operational and strategic realities, we envisage not only improving Recovery Orientated Systems of Care (ROSC) and recovery options for the prison population but bringing better outcomes to the whole prison setting, e.g. prisoners becoming abstinent and entering into a genuine and profound recovery journey whilst in custody; these prisoners become more compliant and collaborative as a direct result of their recovery, bringing more opportunities for prisoner progression, reduction in recidivism, happier and safer prison environments, more uptake of training and education opportunities, more opportunity for prisoners to play an active role in the delivery of the establishment's activities. Ultimately, we want prisoners in every Scottish prison to be able to access and initiate a robust and meaningful recovery pathway that continues seamlessly throughout their custody and on liberation carries on into their resettlement back into their community in line with the rights-based approach and criminal justice measures set out by Scottish Government's 'Rights, Respect and Recovery' strategy and action plan.

Our strategy to achieve this involves SRC continuing to work closely with SPS and Prison Healthcare at a national and local establishment level. Our Chief Executive will continue to operate nationally with SPS headquarters, SPS Drug and Alcohol Strategy Group and to co-chair SPS National Recovery Network. This input will be supported by SRC's Prison and Healthcare Recovery (PHR) Officer who will also operate at establishment level to build capacity and knowledge of recovery with SPS staff, prisoners, healthcare and third sector staff. SRC Chief Executive (CEO) and PHR Officer will also utilise and coordinate other SRC specialist staff to deliver specific aspects of the workplan.

We will continue to build and develop coordination and connectivity amongst establishment recovery activities through the SPS recovery network, but this work will be complimented by the engagement of our PHR Officer supporting individual establishments to create, develop and improve their own recovery cafes, recovery communities and recovery pathways or other initiatives connected to recovery. This will be achieved through close working relationships with staff, knowledge and capacity building through training, consultation and project development collaboration. The PHR Officer will also work to ensure local connectivity between prisons and their local lived Experience Recovery Organisations (LERO) and other recovery orientated services. Training and specialist support in aspects of recovery development will also be delivered by other members of SRC national staff team to ensure the best possible access to this knowledge and expertise is made available throughout Scottish Prison Service establishments.

Our workplan will be delivered by SRC PHR Officer, CEO and other SRC staff in combination with SPS staff at national and establishment level, prison healthcare and third sector staff collaborating with prisoners in recovery to ensure the development of lived experience recovery opportunities being extended to as many prisoners as possible. On an annual basis the PHR Officer will focus on 3-5 specific establishments to provide focused and significant capacity to recovery development whilst maintaining general support to all establishments on an ad hoc and planned basis through SPS National Recovery Network activities. In addition to these measures we will commit to delivering at least one session of Recovery Awareness Training to every cohort of new recruits to SPS staff during their basic training. To review, plan and coordinate progress we suggest that in addition to DAS Group and SPS NRN meetings we convene regular Recovery Strategy Steering Group meetings.

Year 1. 2021-22: In depth mapping and review of current recovery initiatives in all 15 establishments. Mapping and connectivity of national network of visible local recovery communities and LERO's into prison recovery development. Identify and work closely with 5 prisons to build or develop their recovery pathways. Delivery of SRC Recovery Community Development Training Programme to staff and prisoners in identified establishments. Build the acceptance of collaboration, trust and respect between staff and lived experience peer volunteers to deliver recovery activities.

Year 2. 2022-23: Continuation of focused development support from year 1 in a further 5 identified establishments. Begin to support the devolution of responsibility to prisoners with lived experience of dependency and robust recovery for the delivery of peer-to-peer structured recovery support. This can be achieved through the delivery of SRC Recovery Community Development Training Programme to prisoners by SRC, SPS, healthcare and third sector staff. In addition, SRC will be in a position to offer our Recovery Development Award to staff and prisoners. This is an SVQ Level 3 in Recovery Development Practice which we envisage as a benchmark professional qualification for professional recovery development staff.

Year 3 2023-24: Consolidation of achievements to date and completion of focused and intensive support on recovery development to any establishments within the estate. A switch in emphasis from development to sustainability of recovery initiatives. This will primarily be achieved by rolling out a Training 4 Trainers programme for all sections of SRC's Recovery Community Development Training Programme to staff and prisoners in all Scottish prisons. The opportunity for research and evidence gathering should be explored and building on the achievements of the previous years, consideration of improving quality and developing further pathways should be explored at this stage.

In December 2020 we held a virtual gathering of the **SPS National Recovery Network**. This event focused on **The Early Release from Prison to Residential Rehabilitation Protocol** created by SRC on behalf of Scottish Government coproduced with the Recovery and Residential Working Group. We invited all members of the SPS NRN, prison healthcare practitioners as well as third sector providers working across the estate as well as the residential providers taking part in this important pathway which can save lives and change lives by offering participants a fully developed pathway to full recovery from dependency issues and associated behaviours. Offering this event to a wider audience would promote the fundamental recovery (and ROSC) concepts of connectivity and coproduction whilst gathering SPS staff Recoverists (recovery activists) at the end of this challenging year to plan for a positive future.