

**FALKIRK COUNCIL CORPORATE & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES  
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT  
2013/14**

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| Organisation Name    | SACRO  |
| Project              | Restorative Acceptable Behaviour Service                 |
| Agreement Dates      | 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2013 – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2014 |
| Name of Lead Officer | Alice Keenan   |

## **A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

SACRO are funded through Falkirk Council's Community Safety budget to deliver the Restorative Acceptable Behaviour Service (RABS). The aim of this service is to provide a constructive method of addressing anti-social behaviour/offending by young people (8 to 18) within their communities and diverting them from formal measures of intervention by:

- Enabling young people referred to the service to consider the consequences of their actions and to make amends for their wrong doing;
- Giving the persons harmed by the behaviour/conflict the opportunity to impress on young person the impact of his/her behaviour has had on them and to be involved in the resolution of the harm;
- Assisting the young person in developing an understanding of their and others emotions, particularly of those persons harmed by their actions;
- Engaging the young person in examining the causes and consequences of their anti-social/offending behaviour;
- Involving parents of the young people in resolving the conflict; and
- Involving the community affected by the conflict/ASB in the agreed outcome.

SACRO aim to reduce conflict and offending and make communities safer and more cohesive across Scotland.

### List of Agreed Outcomes

The Restorative Acceptable Behaviour Service (RABS) contributes to the Council's Single Outcome Agreement Community Safety priority ("Our Area will be a Safer Place to Live) through:

- Diverting young people away from anti-social behaviour and criminal activity;
- Changing attitudes and modifying behaviour;
- Reducing the fear of crime; and
- Supporting the delivery of safer communities.

SACRO provides a Restorative Acceptable Behaviour Service (RABS) which includes short one to one behaviour programmes and more intensive programmes on either a one to one or group work basis. Individual referrals will be accepted from the Conflict Resolution Service, Education, Community Safety Team, Community Education and the locality Multi Agency Groups.

SACRO will work with 60 young people individually or in groupwork sessions. They also deliver on the following activities:

- Restorative interventions as a result of actions arising from the Community Safety tasking process;
- Preventative work with young people by delivering sessions in partnership with other agencies to High Schools in the Falkirk area; and
- Referrals from the Police Scotland through Vulnerable Persons Reports submitted to the Multi agency screening hub (MASH) located within Larbert Police office. SACRO will facilitate restorative meetings (when appropriate).

#### Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council

The service is provided externally as SACRO are leaders across Scotland in the provision of restorative approaches within a community justice setting. This route provides us with a cost effective and valued resource in managing anti-social behaviour / conflict within our communities.

SACRO has developed significant experience in restorative approaches and is seen as leading the work in restorative approaches with young people displaying anti-social/criminal behaviours.

The service aims to direct young people aged between 8 and 18 away from becoming subject to anti-social behaviour legislation through providing a constructive method offensive/offending behaviour within local communities through the pursuit of restorative approaches. It also allows people harmed by anti-social behaviour to get answers to questions and ask something of the perpetrator through reparation and voluntary work.

This service provides the Community Safety Partnership with expertise in working with young people responsible for repeated incidents of ASB, persons harmed and affected communities to reduce and resolve conflict within local communities. The service provides the Partnership with a cost effective and valuable resource in managing ASB/conflict within our communities.

The service was developed in Falkirk in 2006 from the project being delivered in Aberdeen. The Aberdeen Restorative Practices project has recently been recognised at a National Level by the Howard League Community Programmes award in London.

### **B ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES**

#### Summary of Key Achievements

SACRO continues to deliver a high quality range of services which consists of RABS Early Intervention support; Intensive Support; contributions on the Step Forward Programme for school leavers (Falkirk High) to raise awareness of antisocial behaviour issues and information regarding youth justice; Early and Effective Interventions for Breach of the Peace, Vandalism; Awareness raising sessions for the Community Safety team and Housing Officers; Interventions with young people in Camelon due to issues identified through the Community Safety Tasking & Co-ordination process.

This service supports the Community Planning Partnership's drive to pursue early intervention and prevention based approaches where possible. Referrals to the service are made by Community Wardens, Conflict Resolution and the Community Safety Partnership's tasking and co-ordination process. The service comprises both short one to one behaviour improvement

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| <p>programmes and more intensive one to one or group programmes. This is linked to work in our High Schools through the Step Forward Programme.</p> <p>Forty nine referrals were received this year for the RABS service delivering 19 hours early Intervention support and 230 hours of Intensive Support. Referrals to the RABS service were lower this year due to changes in the EEI process. Scottish Government funding ceased at the end of March 2013. Discussions are ongoing to keep early intervention referrals in place. In addition to this SACRO delivered sessions on the Step Forward Programme and the work directed by the tasking &amp; co-ordination group to address antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>SACRO have reduced the running costs of this service and have used this to enhance the hours available for the delivery of service. They have also put in additional resources to add value to the service being delivered, e.g. appointed a volunteer to provide additional support to young people one day a week; another volunteer is currently in the process of being recruited. A modern apprentice administrator has also been recruited and will be providing dedicated admin support to the team.</p> |
| <p><u>Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation</u></p> <p>The main issues facing SACRO is the continuance of funding in the future and the maintenance of referrals in light of the withdrawal of funding for the Early and Effective Intervention model from the Scottish Government. Discussions are ongoing to keep the Early and Effective Intervention model going albeit a reduced version due to reduced funding levels.</p>  |
| <p><u>How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities</u></p> <p>The RABS service continues to work with partners and the Community Safety Partnership's monthly Tasking and Co-ordination Group to reduce levels of conflict and antisocial behaviour in communities through challenging and modifying young people's behaviours; diverting young people away from anti-social behaviour and criminal activity; reducing the fear of crime within our communities and supporting the delivery of safer communities. Case studies are available to evidence the effect of their interventions.</p>  |
| <p><u>List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance</u></p> <p>None.</p>   |
| <p><u>How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer</u></p> <p>Quarterly.</p>  |
| <p><b>C FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW</b></p>  |
| <p><u>Total Support Provided (Financial &amp; In- Kind Contributions)</u></p> <p>£81,296 (Restorative Justice Service – Youth Justice)<br/>£46,104 (Restorative Acceptable Behaviour Service – ASB)</p>   |
| <p><u>Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts</u></p>   |

Year ended 31 March 2013.

Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation

Reduced funding levels. Funding is provided on a year to year basis.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Low risk. Annual Risk and Financial Assessment dated 1<sup>st</sup> August 2014.

**D CONCLUSIONS**

Summary/ opinion of organisations overall progress carried forward from last report, and also during this year

SACRO RABS Service provides a high quality service to the Community Safety Partnership. They provide an integral role in our management of anti-social behaviour in partnership with Detached Youth Work, Conflict Resolution Service, Community Safety team, Children & Families Service and Police Scotland. SACRO are a key partner in working with communities to resolve anti-social behaviour and provide re-assurance to communities.

**E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Alice Keenan

Designation

Corporate Policy Officer

Date

15<sup>th</sup> August 2014