

Monitor the development of policies to promote community justice and social inclusion and present information and recommendations for change

Overview

This standard is about influencing the development of policies in relation to the promotion of community justice and social inclusion. It includes monitoring trends and developments in community justice and social inclusion to consider how they impact on policy development. It involves presenting information to others, evaluating changes in practice which the policies have brought about, and making recommendations for the future development of policies promoting community justice and social inclusion.

It concerns the impact of outside influences upon policies (for example the media, public opinion, and low occupational expectations and norms which detrimentally affect how people view policies), any identified trends and developments which mean that policies need to be revised, including changes in legislation.

There are three elements

1. Monitor trends and developments in policies for their impact on community justice and social inclusion
2. Present information and arguments to others on how policies affect community justice and social inclusion
3. Evaluate and recommend changes to policies to improve community justice and social inclusion

Target group

This standard is applicable to those who have little direct control over policy decisions but are seeking to influence policy debates and policy development in relation to promoting community justice and social inclusion. It is designed to be relevant to a wide range of organisations, including probation services, social work, the police, prison services, local authorities, inter-agency teams and voluntary sector agencies. It involves those whose work may be focused on community safety, crime reduction, victims, survivors and witnesses affected by offending, or with those who have offended.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Monitor trends and developments in policies for their impact on community justice and social inclusion

1. monitor significant trends and developments in policies and their impact on community justice and social inclusion
2. identify the need to carry out further evaluation and research into specific aspects of policies and put the necessary arrangements in place to achieve this
3. determine the change needed to policies based on evidence, and prioritise those which are most likely to have an effect on community justice and social inclusion
4. maintain records of policy monitoring, including the identified trends and developments, your reasoning processes, and actions proposed as a result of monitoring in line with organisational requirements
5. provide your analysis, including all relevant information, within agreed timescales to the relevant person(s)

Present information and arguments to others on how policies affect community justice and social inclusion

6. identify those individuals responsible for policy development, and who are in position of influence and authority
7. seize suitable opportunities to offer information on trends and developments which may have relevance to policy development with relation to community justice and social inclusion
8. explain the added value that the promotion of community justice and social inclusion brings to the agendas and objectives of policy makers using methods that promote their understanding
9. encourage policy makers to consider how their decisions will directly affect people's community justice and social inclusion, including the risks to community justice and social inclusion in the decisions made
10. encourage policy makers to involve stakeholders in the policy under development and understand the reasons for their active involvement
11. provide up-to-date information on trends and developments which acknowledges the agendas and interests of policy makers
12. present information and offer arguments which are justifiable in terms of the policy makers' interests and situation and recognise the complexity of the decisions which they may have to make
13. provide advice and information on specific areas of policy based on evidence, at an appropriate time and in a form which is clear and

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understandable

14. encourage policy makers to seek advice on your area of expertise, where appropriate

15. evaluate your effectiveness in influencing the policy agenda and use this to inform future practice

Evaluate and recommend changes to policies to improve community justice and social inclusion

16. monitor the effectiveness of policies in achieving their intended purpose at optimum intervals

17. confirm that the monitoring process scans all potential areas of impact, and in a way that is capable of identifying any problem areas

18. analyse information using recognised techniques, to assess for any impact upon the formulation or implementation of policy

19. bring issues about the implementation of policy to the attention of stakeholders in an appropriate way

20. develop clear recommendations for improving policies which strike the best balance between the achievements made and any noted shortfalls

21. offer recommendations to stakeholders in a form and at a time which is suitable for their use

22. offer the appropriate support to resolve the situation when individuals misinterpret or query the information provided

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Legislative, regulatory and organisational requirements

1. legal and organisational requirements which relate to promoting community justice and social inclusion, and their impact for your area of operations
2. legislation, policies and procedures relating to data protection, health and safety, diversity and their impact for your area of operations
3. the role of your organisation and its services, and the services which it provides towards policy development to promote community justice and social inclusion
4. organisational policy and procedures regarding confidentiality of information and the disclosure of information to third parties, and the specific circumstances under which disclosure may be made
5. the limits of your authority and responsibility, and the actions to take if these are exceeded

Working within the community justice sector

6. the impact of crime on victims, survivors and witnesses and their right to protection, recognition, respect, and information
7. the means which are available for promoting community justice and social inclusion
8. the social and environmental factors which contribute to social exclusion, including the particular needs of individuals who may be socially excluded or stigmatised
9. why social justice is important to working effectively with socially excluded individuals, groups and communities
10. methods of forecasting trends and developments and identifying factors which may affect policies
11. the principles underpinning the process and purpose of policy development
12. the tensions which may arise during the development of policies directed at community justice and social inclusion, including any identified conflict between public and personal responsibility
13. the factors and priorities which may influence the development of policies and their acceptance
14. how community justice and social inclusion can be promoted in policies which have other aims at their centre
15. the various uses of information technology in the development of policies
16. methods for consulting with stakeholders in ways that encourage ownership

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of the process and outcomes

- 17. methods for analysing information to reveal actual or potential problems
- 18. how to present information and arguments to capture people's interests and encourage them to take action, including:
 - 18.1 the range of formats which can be used to present information
 - 18.2 how to use these formats effectively
- 19. the reasoning processes you used in determining your approach and methodology
- 20. methods for monitoring and evaluating your own practice against the intended outcomes, including why it is important to share information about successes and failures

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Developed by	Skills for Justice
Version Number	3
Date Approved	August 2015
Indicative Review Date	July 2020
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Skills for Justice
Original URN	SFJBA11
Relevant Occupations	Community justice workers; Public Service and Other Associate Professionals; Public Services
Suite	Community Justice
Keywords	Community safety; crime prevention; policy; influence; influencing; lobby; lobbying; research; researching; transforming rehabilitation