

SFJCJBA3

Promote the values of community justice and social inclusion and seize opportunities to influence policy development



Overview

This standard is about taking action to promote the values of community justice and social inclusion. It involves seeking opportunities to influence policy development, in relation to those policies which are not specifically directed at promoting community justice and social inclusion, for example policies addressing education and training, employment, health and social care, and social security.

You may have little, or no direct influence on the policies under development, and it is likely that policies such as these may be developed in settings and contexts other than your own. In order to promote the values of community justice and social inclusion through policy development, you will need to be alert to opportunities that may arise. These might involve training and development, publicity, awareness campaigns, formal and/or informal interaction and involvement in collaborative ventures. You may also need to be proactive in capitalising upon opportunities to influence the setting of policies by keeping abreast of initiatives in the overall environment where you work, and recognising opportunities to link the promotion of community justice and social inclusion into policy makers' other aims and objectives.

The term 'community' has been used to mean a set of people who are united either by a common geographical location or by a common interest or aspect, such as their work, gender or a disability. These might include groups and organisations, for example, business communities, young people, minority ethnic groups, lesbian and gay people.

There are two elements

- 1 Create and capitalise upon opportunities to influence the setting of policies that will affect community justice and social inclusion
- 2 Promote community justice and social inclusion as an essential value when setting policies

Target Group

This standard is applicable to those who have responsibility for promoting the values of community justice and social inclusion, through seeking to influence policy development. This may involve departments of your own organisation, other than where you work, for example within a local authority you may be seeking to influence the development of transport policies. It also includes influencing policies set by other organisations, for example those supporting victims and survivors may seek to influence the local authority's housing policies. It is designed to be relevant to a wide range of organisations, including probation, social work, police, prison service, local authorities, inter-agency teams and voluntary sector organisations.

SFJCJBA3

Promote the values of community justice and social inclusion and seize opportunities to influence policy development

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Create and capitalise upon opportunities to influence the setting of policies that will affect community justice and social inclusion

- P1 monitor your working environment to identify potential opportunities to influence policies which affect community justice and social inclusion
- P2 prioritise opportunities for influencing policy
- P3 explain clearly and effectively the added value which the promotion of community justice and social inclusion brings to the agendas and objectives of policy makers
- P4 prioritise improvements in community justice and social inclusion which are relevant, current and consistent with the agendas and issues identified
- P5 offer examples of how community justice and social inclusion has been effectively included in others' policy development
- P6 communicate information to the appropriate people in a manner which promotes its value and emphasises ways in which improvements in community justice and social inclusion will facilitate the achievement of other aims and goals
- P7 prepare information on community justice and social inclusion and related issues in a form which is likely to be of interest and value to the policy makers concerned
- P8 reinforce improvements, successes and achievements made by policy makers at every opportunity supported by relevant and accurate information
- P9 constructively tackle queries and objections to the idea of including community justice and social inclusion in policies and make alternative proposals
- P10 provide advice and information on specific areas of policy within appropriate timescales, based on evidence and in a form relevant to the user
- P11 encourage policy makers to seek advice on your area of expertise when it would benefit them to do so
- P12 evaluate your effectiveness in influencing the policy agenda and use this to inform future practice

Promote community justice and social inclusion as an essential value when setting policies

You must be able to:

- P13 obtain information on individuals and organisations likely to be interested in community justice and social inclusion as an issue, and identify those which are a priority
- P14 obtain the contact details for the policy makers within these organisations, ensuring that these are correct and up to date

SFJCJBA3

Promote the values of community justice and social inclusion and seize opportunities to influence policy development

- P15 identify the most appropriate methods for gaining the interest of different policy makers and organisations
- P16 plan the most effective ways of interesting policy makers in community justice and social inclusion given the overall context, prior to contact
- P17 contact the identified policy makers in ways that are conducive to an effective relationship being established, and are likely to arouse their interest
- P18 design the initial contact to be the foundation for further cooperation and discussion, at times and in ways which are of benefit to both parties
- P19 use the initial interests of policy makers to identify how contact might be maintained
- P20 identify the nature of the policy makers' organisation, and the issues which they face, and use this information to relate community justice and social inclusion to their issues and agendas
- P21 present ideas to policy makers and organisations in ways which show how the promotion of community justice and social inclusion will add value to the interests and agendas, and is likely to catch their interest
- P22 give policy makers opportunities to communicate their views and make appropriate responses
- P23 identify the reasons for disinterest in, or rejection of, initial proposals and make alternative suggestions
- P24 maintain contact with policy makers and organisations in relation to the promotion of community justice and social inclusion, sustaining the goodwill of the individual and organisations concerned, and in line with your organisation's procedures
- P25 maintain accurate and up to date records of contacts made with individuals and other organisations, in line with your organisation's requirements

SFJCJBA3

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Legislative, regulatory and organisational requirements

- K1 legal and organisational requirements which relate to community justice and social inclusion, and their impact for your area of operations
- K2 legislation, policies and procedures relating to data protection, health and safety, diversity and their impact for your area of operations
- K3 the role of your organisation and its services, and the services which it provides in promoting the values of community justice and social inclusion through policy development
- K4 the organisation's 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
- K5 the limits of your authority and responsibility, and the actions to take if these are exceeded

Working within the community justice sector

You need to know and understand:

- K6 methods and strategies of awareness raising which have been carried out by others and the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches
- K7 the impact of crime on victims and their need for protection, respect, recognition and information
- K8 the social and environmental factors which contribute to social exclusion, including the particular needs of individuals who may be socially excluded or stigmatised, and why social justice is important to working effectively with socially excluded individuals, groups and communities
- K9 the concepts of community justice and social inclusion, including the profile of your local area, its communities, structures and amenities, and community groups including those 'hard to reach' communities
- K10 the principles which underpin policy setting and how these can be built into policy formulation, including the context in which policy development takes place, and the process and purpose of policy development); the range of different aspects which needs to be developed in policies directed at community justice and social inclusion; the tensions and conflicts which may arise during the development of policies directed at community justice and social inclusion (e.g. between public and personal responsibility)
- K11 the factors and priorities which may influence the development of policies and their acceptance, including public opinion, legislation, resource implications, knowledge and practice, and technology
- K12 how community justice and social inclusion can be promoted in policies which have other aims at their centre, including methods for achieving this

SFJCJBA3

Promote the values of community justice and social inclusion and seize opportunities to influence policy development

- K13 the nature, roles and functions of the principal organisations within the sector in which you work, including the different roles which people have within the organisations concerned, the different settings of policy makers, and the policies related to these settings
- K14 different ways of relating community justice and social inclusion to the agendas and issues of others, including methods for achieving this
- K15 methods for monitoring and evaluating your own practice against the intended outcomes, including why it is important to share information about successes and failures

SFJCJBA3

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