

SFJ ED8

Monitor and evaluate interventions designed to promote desistance from offending



Overview

This standard is about evaluating the overall impact of interventions upon the desistance of offending/reoffending within your area of operations. It includes working with others to establish the methods to be applied to measure impact, to confirm that interventions have been applied with fidelity and to ensure that the impact of programmes and interventions is understood.

There are two elements

- 1 Establish and use measures to monitor the impact of interventions
- 2 Evaluate the impact of programmes

Target group

This standard is applicable to managers with responsibility for evaluating the impact of their organisations' key interventions.

SFJ ED8

Monitor and evaluate interventions designed to promote desistance from offending

Performance criteria

Establish and use measures to monitor the impact of interventions

You must be able to:

- P1 liaise with colleagues and relevant stakeholders to determine indicators and measures against which the impact of identified intervention programmes and activities can be assessed
- P2 agree objectives which are specific, realistic, measurable, and which are in line with your organisation's strategy
- P3 work with colleagues to agree and implement actions necessary to monitor performance against the targets and measures identified
- P4 use agreed methods to monitor the implementation and performance of interventions against milestones and budget
- P5 identify within required timescales any variances or problems associated with achieving the interventions, and alert relevant stakeholders
- P6 obtain feedback and assess how well interventions have performed, including how accessible services are, their fidelity and how they meet the requirements of the individuals
- P7 identify and work in partnership with people who can provide support for your organisation and its interventions
- P8 seek to understand other people's needs and motivations
- P9 present information concisely and accurately

Evaluate the impact of programmes

You must be able to:

- P10 monitor and evaluate the performance of key interventions against the indicators and measures agreed, and the overall success of interventions against your organisation's objectives
- P11 evaluate any significant variances in performance and recommend reasoned responses towards addressing or capitalising on these variances
- P12 recognise changes in circumstances within required timescales and adjust plans and activities accordingly
- P13 provide a rationale to stakeholders for any variances or changes to the overall programme of interventions
- P14 evaluate the overall implementation of the interventions against the original plan
- P15 identify effective practice and areas for improvement, and communicate these to colleagues using appropriate methods
- P16 evaluate and record how the interventions have worked in line with organisational requirements
- P17 demonstrate the contribution to organisational performance and added value derived from key interventions and activities
- P18 use the indicators and measures to inform future activity
- P19 promote the evaluation of interventions and activities, and the benefits of

SFJ ED8

Monitor and evaluate interventions designed to promote desistance from offending

- sharing any evaluation within your organisation
- P20 identify individuals' responsibilities in implementing the interventions and hold them to account
- P21 disseminate effective practices that demonstrate and promote desistance from offending/reoffending to colleagues nationally using appropriate forums
- P22 present information concisely and accurately, making it available within required timescales to those who need it

SFJ ED8

Monitor and evaluate interventions designed to promote desistance from offending

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 legal, regulatory and ethical requirements that impact upon your organisation and its programme of interventions, including their local, social and political context
- K2 your organisation's services, related to interventions, and activities appropriate to monitor and evaluate the performance of these
- K3 your organisation's objectives and how these fit within the overall strategy for interventions
- K4 the main intervention delivery agencies in partnership with your organisation, their objectives, roles and key stakeholders
- K5 the principles of intervention design and the associated evaluation activity
- K6 the importance of the need to monitor and evaluate the impact of interventions upon organisational performance when managing the risk of offending/reoffending
- K7 measures of performance available to your organisation, including return on investment, post intervention appraisals and actual performance versus objectives
- K8 the importance of the need to consult with colleagues and other stakeholders when developing indicators and measures
- K9 the importance of the need to promote the success of intervention activities and programmes
- K10 why you must avoid jargon when liaising with colleagues in other agencies
- K11 current and emerging trends and developments in interventions for the justice sector, and sources of information regarding such trends and developments

SFJ ED8

Monitor and evaluate interventions designed to promote desistance from offending

Additional Information

Glossary

Desistance

Desistance from crime refers to the long-term abstinence from criminal behaviour among those for whom offending had become a pattern of behaviour. Some see desistance as a permanent cessation of offending over several years, whilst others take an arguably more fluid definition of desistance, accepting that episodes of re-offending may occur.

(McNeill et al, 2012)

SFJ ED8

Monitor and evaluate interventions designed to promote desistance from offending

Developed by	Skills for Justice
Version number	2
Date approved	January 2013
Indicative review date	January 2018
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	Skills for Justice
Original URN	SFJ ED8
Relevant occupations	Youth Offending Team Officer; Youth Offending Team Worker; Youth Justice Officer; Youth Justice Practitioner; Senior Youth Offending Team Officer; Senior Youth Offending Team Worker; Senior Youth Justice Practitioner; Youth Offending Team Manager; Youth Justice Manager
Suite	Youth Justice; Resettlement of Offenders
Key words	Monitor; evaluate; success; interventions; impact; desistance