

3 BUTLER TRUST DEVELOPMENT AWARD (AN101-2007)

As part of the Tayside Criminal Justice Partnership, the Resettlement and Throughcare Addiction Service has been successful in receiving the Butler Trust Development Award for their outstanding contribution to the effective care of offenders. The service works on a voluntary basis with short-term prisoners on their release into the community.

The Butler Trust is an independent registered charity that identifies and celebrates excellence and innovation in work with offenders across the United Kingdom. Its Royal Patron is the Princess Royal and its President is the Rt Hon the Lord Woolf. The Resettlement and Throughcare Addiction Service was nominated for an award in May 2006.

Since its introduction in February 2005, the service had established links with prisons and other agencies to co-ordinate transitions into the community. It had delivered 154 interventions, met engagement targets in over 80% of cases, secured stable accommodation for 50% and received positive feedback from all clients.

In partnership with the Trust, the service has already produced a plan to further develop and disseminate its work. This includes extending a new Intensive Support Project for Women and Groupwork Programme, integrated services with health, benchmarking with similar schemes and local and national publicity.

Staff from the service attended Buckingham Palace in March 2007 to receive the award.

This is the first time community based social work services in the Criminal Justice system in Scotland have been eligible to apply for such an award and members are asked to note this positive achievement.