



sacro
ANNUAL REVIEW
2019/2020



Sandy Cameron CBE
Chair

In this, my final year as Chair, I reflect on the great privilege and pleasure to be a Trustee and Chair of such a highly regarded organisation as Sacro. The Third Sector plays a very important part in all of our communities working alongside our statutory sector colleagues albeit the role is not always fully understood in terms of the huge additional resource of expertise we bring to our work. During my time as Chair we have all faced substantial challenges of limited resources which makes the partnerships we have been able to forge with Government and local authority colleagues all the more important. It helps of course that Sacro is so highly regarded right across the justice sector because of the quality of what we do particularly in relation to high risk work and support. Over the years we have developed and adapted services to meet emerging needs. Sacro will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year and I have had the opportunity with my colleagues to begin the process of looking to the future of the organisation which will be the keystone of next year alongside all the celebrations of half a century of contributing to life in communities all across Scotland.

As Chair I have particularly enjoyed visiting our hugely diverse services and meeting our staff and volunteers all of whom bring great passion to their work. It is always rewarding to meet people who use our services on these visits. The adversity they have faced in their lives is humbling and the impact our people have made in helping them turn their lives around confirms in my mind the value and importance of Sacro. I leave the Board in the good hands of Jim Crichton whose wide experience has been and will continue to be an invaluable asset to everyone in Sacro. I wish him, the Trustees, our new Chief Executive, Annie Mauger-Thompson and all who work in our services the very best for continued success in making a difference in lives and communities.



2,500

48 individuals received
2,500 hours of support
from Sacro's Peer
Mentoring service in
Edinburgh.

This is an extraordinary time for Sacro as it is for many organisations. At the end of March, we entered lockdown because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, just as I began my new role as Chief Executive. I am so fortunate to have arrived in an organisation able and equipped to deal with such a challenge and so dedicated to the people we work with. Everything has changed in the way we work and the Sacro team have done amazing things to keep working, supporting the people we work with and each other.

The challenge for a people-based organisation that works face-to-face is immense. The thoughtful planning and adoption of new technology platforms last year has made working so much easier and this investment has delivered more than could have ever been anticipated. We are connected, ready and adaptable.

I am very grateful to the Sacro board for their welcome and support through this extraordinary time, and to my predecessor, Tom Halpin, for all he has done for Sacro and for helping me get to know the landscape. I am especially grateful to my colleagues for their welcome and understanding, and their willingness to hold the ropes while I have got to know how things work.

We can look back over another year when Sacro looked after so many people who, without our help and support, would have had a far more difficult journey in life. The projects and programmes we deliver can be life-changing and we are keen to sustain those and grow more from our experience of what works.

2021 is Sacro's fiftieth year and we have launched Project 50; a pathway towards a new strategy and a celebration of our half century. I know the Board are looking forward to setting out our future plans for a refreshed Sacro that captures the best of us and is driven by our values and desire to support the people we work with, to help them change their lives for the better.



Annie Mauger-Thompson
Chief Executive



>300

Over 300 hours of Sacro Moray staff time was given to help other charities in the first four months of lockdown; including Moray Food Plus and Dr Grays Hospital

Maintaining its strong reputation for continuous improvement and innovation, Sacro developed its focus on domestic abuse, mentoring, housing support and services for women. Throughout the year we made considerable progress in these areas, reaching and meeting need in vulnerable communities.

Towards the final quarter of the year, many of our services were significantly impacted by the pandemic restrictions. In most cases, services had to withdraw face-to-face engagement; and at fairly short notice. A mix of telephone and online contact was introduced to maintain continuity of support and, despite the obvious limitations, we were able to provide a degree of valuable care and support for many of those needing our help.

Essential services such as Intensive Support Packages and residential support services continued with an element of face-to-face provision. A robust programme of infection control safeguards including acquisition of personal protective equipment meant we were able to maintain these services safely.

Sacro Board of Trustees: 2019/2020

Chair	Sandy Cameron CBE
Depute Chair	Dan Gunn OBE
Finance Convenor	Steve Uphill
Standards Assurance Convenor	Jim Crichton
Board Members	Fiona Davidson (appointed 12 December 2018) Jane Davidson (appointed 18 September 2019) Eric Fraser (appointed 12 December 2018) Arun Gopinath Mary Pitcaithly
Observers	Stephen Harper (Scottish Government)
Auditors	Ross McLaughlin (Wylie & Bisset)
Honorary President	Rt Hon. Lord Carloway



STOP has been operating in prisons and schools since 2016. Last year it delivered seven workshops in prisons, to 46 individuals to raise awareness on what a hate crime represents.

Two sessions were also delivered to 16 school pupils, discussing bullying, victimisation and harrassment.



83%

83% of those engaging with Sacro's Veterans Mentoring Service showed an increased motivation to change behaviour.

Domestic abuse

Sacro delivers the PAIR and Caledonian groupwork programmes to address abusive behaviour by men towards a female partner or ex-partner. In some cases, support is also provided to the families affected. FearFree provides support across much of Scotland for any man, or LGBTI+ person experiencing domestic abuse. This year, we introduced our Aditi service in Edinburgh. Aditi offers one-to-one wellbeing, support and advice for Black and Asian ethnic minority women of all religious backgrounds who have experienced or are currently experiencing domestic abuse or 'honour' based violence. The service has acquired dedicated premises in central Edinburgh, due to open later in 2020 when conditions permit.

Mentoring

Sacro continues to develop and innovate in its use of mentoring to support people involved with the justice system. Mentoring provides support on a one-to-one basis and is very much focussed on individual needs. It is also, importantly, voluntary on the part of the participant. The public social partnership 'Shine' provides support for women leaving prison, on remand or serving a Community Payback Order. Available to all women across Scotland, the service continues to have a significant impact on improving the lives of women who may otherwise have struggled to return to living successfully in their communities. As the service was restricted during the pandemic, we introduced telephone and online support for women. We also introduced 'liberation packs' for women leaving prison. These packs included basic health, hygiene and infection control products as well as a phone to enable them to maintain contact with their mentor and other services they need.



484%

FearFree is a support service for men and LGBT people who are victims of domestic abuse.

Between March and December, FearFree received 111 referrals; a 484% increase in requests for support.



94%

of those engaging with our Veterans Mentoring Service stated their offending is now in the past.

Housing support

Sacro's Supported Accommodation services in Aberdeen and Moray provide supported accommodation for young people and homeless adults. The services continue to deliver activities aimed at improving social confidence and inclusion. Despite the widespread pandemic restrictions, this essential service was able to safely provide continuity of personal, face-to-face support. Our supported accommodation and intensive support services are registered with the Care Inspectorate and consistently receive good reports and grades.

Our partnership with YPeople, YourHome, supports people to find, set up and continue to live in suitable accommodation. The service helps people to avoid eviction or loss of accommodation as well as providing support in temporary accommodation. YouHome has maintained face-to-face contact for essential and crisis situations during lockdown and secured funding from the Scottish Government to provide digital devices to maintain contact with those who would otherwise be unable to do so.

During the year, Sacro won a tender with seven organisations, including: Wheatley Care, YPeople, Mungo Foundation and the Salvation Army, becoming partner of the Glasgow Alliance to End Homelessness.

The Alliance will plan and deliver a large-scale transformational change agenda across the purchased service sector, re-designing and delivering modernised services and support to maximise potential for independent living. The Alliance will work in partnership with individuals with lived experience, statutory services, housing providers and others, towards homelessness prevention and sustainable resettlement, minimise time spent homeless and end rough sleeping for Glasgow Citizens.



825

YourHome supported 825 people to access appropriate and suitable accommodation that provides for their immediate accommodation needs as well as their transition to settled accommodation and independent living skills.



90%

90% of residents leave Moray Supported Accommodation with a positive destination.

Services for women

CLiCK is a new and innovative service funded by the UK Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport through the Tampon Tax Fund. It is a partnership between Sacro, the Women's Support Project, Glasgow and Clyde Rape Crisis, Dundee Vice Versa (part of Dundee Rape Crisis), Aberdeen Cyrenians and Alcohol and Drugs Action. The service aims to address the changing health, safety and well-being needs of women selling or exchanging sex in Scotland.

Following a Scottish Government report in 2017 where it was identified that there has been an overwhelming shift from on-street to online and indoors prostitution, CLiCK has been funded to explore new and innovative ways to reach and support women who are selling/exchanging sex and sexual services on online platforms and indoor venues. These women face new and additional risks to those who work on the street, while they are underrepresented in services as they tend to be considerably less visible for women working in public spaces.

To respond to the needs of this service user group, CLiCK has a dedicated website, an Android/iOS phone app, online chat and a dedicated helpline, as well as 10 workers throughout mainland Scotland able to provide long-term, one-to-one support to women.

I like having someone who is passionate about my wellbeing. My worker makes me feel safe to speak about the work I am involved in and I have always felt judged in the past. My worker is the only person I feel 100% safe in opening up to.

Woman supported by Another Way Service



Sacro's Another Way service supports the health and wellbeing of women involved in Edinburgh's sex industry.

Of the women supported this year:

- 8 have exited sex work;
- 45 have received long-term one-to-one support;
- 35 engaged with the street outreach team;
- 119 were supported via sauna outreach and
- 48 received crisis funding via the Encompass fund.

Public protection services

Sacro continues to play a key role in public protection and is recognised as a lead provider for wraparound services to those at the highest risk of reoffending. The National Intensive Support Packages (ISP) service continues to grow in locations throughout Scotland. In some areas, our intensive support is also provided to young people and those with a learning disability.

Conflict resolution

Through its consultancy and training service, Sacro has informed the development of community mediation services within many local authorities and has trained over 1000 people in mediation and conflict resolution since 1999. Today, Sacro delivers mediation across several local authorities, including Fife where it has – in collaboration with the council – developed a new, multi-disciplinary approach to assisting those in conflict.

Sacro has underlined its long-standing commitment to foster, encourage, and support the use of mediation in Scotland by adding its signature to the Mediation Charter. Launched earlier this year by Scottish Mediation, the Charter is a public statement of an organisation's willingness to use mediation as a way of resolving disputes, and to equip its people with the skills needed to apply the practice.



332

Fife Community Safety Support Service received 332 referrals from Housing Services, Police, Safer Communities Teams and Multi Agency meetings. 97% were contacted within two days of receiving referral.

The service supports individuals who are experiencing Anti-social behaviour or hate incidents.



1028

83% of those referred to Fife Community Safety Support Service for mediation participated with 64% proceeding to a successful mediation.

There have been 1028 beneficiaries.

Youth services

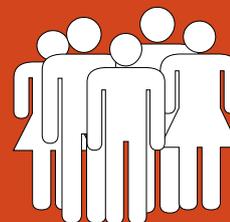
Sacro provides a number of services specifically designed to support and encourage young people. Many of these services are based on restorative principles, which offer support to those affected by and those responsible for harm. The aim of services using restorative principles is to address behaviour in a way which empowers the people harmed, those responsible and the wider community members in order to resolve issues in a constructive way.

This year, Sacro established the Young People Inclusion Project, focused on promoting social inclusion for vulnerable young people in Dumfries and Annan. The project supports young people to gain access to local services, provides advocacy and promotes positive decision making with the aim of reintegration into the community.

“10 out of 10! It was really good and made my son really think about what he had done. Everybody we worked with was really understanding and there was no judgement.

“Because the worker spoke to him like a normal person, he was able to open up to her”

Parent of participant with Fife Youth Justice Service



532

Fife Youth Justice received 183 referrals involving 323 offences. 75% of those who participated with the service had a satisfactory outcome

There have been 532 beneficiaries.



454

Edinburgh Travel Service provided free transport for 454 passengers to visit loved ones in HMP/State Hospital care.

Community safety

Sacro's community safety services provide support to address and raise awareness of hate crime, intolerance and abusive behaviour targeted at specific communities due to race, colour, religion or sexual orientation. In June, Sacro's STOP service was a finalist at the Scottish Social Services Awards in the "Making Change Happen" category. The service provides programmes to educate and rehabilitate people charged with sectarian and hate crime offences to ensure positive, achievable and sustainable changes in attitudes and behaviours. It has been working with Rangers FC to address problematic supporter behaviour and is discussing similar interventions with other football clubs. Prior to the pandemic, STOP was exploring ways to make better use of digital tools to widen the scope of the service and this has been progressing throughout the year.

Restorative justice

A cornerstone of many Sacro services, the use of restorative justice has become further embedded into Scotland's justice system with formal practice guidance and a government action plan being progressed throughout the year. Sacro was instrumental in setting up the Restorative Justice Forum (Scotland); a body that brings together stakeholders from across the justice system to promote the benefits and best practice of this unique and powerful practice. The Forum worked with the Scottish Government to produce this guidance and action plan and we look forward to seeing greater use of restorative practices in addressing the harm caused by offending in our society.



1,100

During the Covid-19 lockdown, Sacro's Veterans Mentoring staff helped to distribute approximately 1100 food packs to vulnerable veterans throughout Scotland.



96%

of the people supported by YourHome have been able to remain in accommodation within a year of the support ending.

Influencing and contributing to the justice agenda

Professor Emeritus David Wilson delivered this year's Sacro lecture in front of a large and appreciative audience at Edinburgh's Signet Library. The wide-ranging lecture highlighted the popularity of "Tartan Noir" crime fiction as a genre and the realities of violent crime.

In addition to traditional media channels, Sacro has continued to develop its presence through social media and online activities. Sacro maintains profiles on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

Sacro continues to influence policy and legislation in Scotland by presenting at conferences and providing expert evidence and analysis to parliamentary committees and government consultations. This year we contributed to positive changes in the extension of the presumption against short prison sentences, a Restorative Justice Action Plan, strengthening of protections against female genital mutilation and domestic abuse, technical developments in the management of offenders and increasing the age of criminal responsibility.



£8,800

Edinburgh Travel Service's eight volunteer drivers gave up 1498 hours of their time to provide free transport for families to visit loved ones in HMP/State Hospital care.



>5,000

5000+ meals were cooked in collaboration with the Moray Food Plus project to feed vulnerable people during the first four months of lockdown.



30,257

Edinburgh Travel Service made 247 individual journeys, covering 30,257 miles to provide free transport for families to visit loved ones in HMP/State Hospital care.

Finance

During 2019/2020, Sacro's turnover amounted to £7.7 million.

Criminal Justice Services continue to represent the main source of expenditure (81%) with Youth Justice and Community Mediation accounting for 10% and 9% of the total respectively.

2019/20 has been a year of mixed fortunes with the loss of some long-standing services, but encouraging to have attracted new services and retained many existing ones in the face of strong competition.

Sacro will continue to diversify its funding streams where possible, particularly where opportunities exist to develop new and innovative approaches to our work and service users. Redeveloping existing services to meet changing priorities and needs is also something we are committed to.

Covid-19 lockdown restrictions has required Sacro to adapt the ways in which it supports service users. It is extremely encouraging that that despite the challenges lockdown restrictions have presented Sacro has continued to support individuals across Scotland by embracing a variety of new technologies.

The Sacro Trust

The Sacro Trust is constitutionally separate and aims to provide small grants to individuals in the process of rehabilitation. In 2019/2020, the Trust awarded 36 grants totalling £7,055. Twenty-five of the grants were made to Sacro service users in a variety of services; mostly in East Central Scotland. Eleven of the grants were made to service users with other organisations who also work in the fields of criminal justice.

More than half of these grants were made to rehabilitating individuals engaging in education, training and work experience, with the remaining funding awarded for basic household items and items pertaining to personal wellbeing, mainly clothing.

Income	£'000s
Donations	26
Voluntary Income	451
Investment Income	28
Other Income	84
Youth Justice Income	811
Criminal Justice Income	5,629
Community Mediation Income	690
Total Income	7,719
Expenditure	£'000s
Criminal Justice	6,498
Youth Justice	758
Community Mediation	589
Total Expenditure	7,846

Sacro National Office: 29 Albany Street
Edinburgh EH1 3QN
Telephone: 0131 624 7270
Fax: 0131 624 7269
Email: info@sacro.org.uk
Website: www.sacro.org.uk

ISBN 978-1-900539-70-8

Sacro ref: NAT/144

© Sacro 2020

Sacro is a company incorporated under the Companies Act, limited by guarantee.
Registered in Scotland. Company Registration Number: SC086651.
Registered Charity Number: SC016293.
Registered Office at 29 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 3QN.

 [@sacro_](https://twitter.com/sacro_)

 [@sacroscotland](https://facebook.com/sacroscotland)



Help Sacro continue its work by making a donation online at uk.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/

