



WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

1 MARCH 2019

Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) Update

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide Panel members with an update on the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC), their work with the Police and Crime Commissioner and work of the Police and Crime Commissioner with regards to probation and reducing reoffending.

2. Background

- 2.1 An update report from the CRC has been previously received by the Police and Crime Panel during May 2017 and it was agreed to take a follow-up report to the Panel at a suitable time and once performance figures had been published.
- 2.2 The paper provides an update around the role and work of the National Probation Service (NPS) and the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC), working together, in West Yorkshire. Their collective function is to manage offenders within communities during their community sentences, and on release from prison as they are re integrated back into society.
- 2.3 The report includes updated performance figures for 2017/18, and compares with figures in the earlier report from 2016/17, drawing some conclusions, based upon the backdrop of the challenges which the Transforming Rehabilitation (TR) programme created. The report then touches on the Her Majesty's Inspector of Probation (HMIP) inspection in 2018, which graded the service as "requiring improvement", and provides potential reasons for this disappointing outcome.

3. Joint Work To Reduce Reoffending

- 3.1 Since the last report, relationships between the NPS/CRC and other Criminal Justice Partners have further developed, and the OPCC has continued to support this joint working through the driving and chairing of relevant forums.
- 3.2 In response, the West Yorkshire CRC have worked as a key stakeholder, actively supporting the development of the Reducing Reoffending strategy with regular dialogue and provision of data when needed. The CRC also attend the Commissioner's Partnership Executive Group (PEG). The CRC have been an active member of the PEG since 2014, with regular attendance from the Chief Executive or their representative at meetings. At these meeting updates have been given on reoffending rates, current projects and initiatives delivered by the CRC. Most recently a colleague from Information Management at the CRC has been fully engaged with a project funded by the PEG to develop an Information Sharing Protocol for

members and other partners as a result of the new General Data Protection Regulations that came into force during 2018. This work is due to conclude by mid-March 2019.

- 3.3 At the Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB) which Mark Chairs, the CRC feature as a key stakeholder and recently presented an update around a new performance tool which will enable improved tracking of re offending moving forward.

4 National Response to Transforming Rehabilitation

- 4.1 The Ministry of Justice (MOJ) have responded to the disappointing results of the CRC's nationally, after the TR programme, and this response has been widely reported upon. As a result the MOJ are currently undertaking a procurement process for new Probation contracts. Encouragingly, these will span, in this Region, Yorkshire and The Humber as a single contract package area, addressing some of the issues created by the current disparate delivery model.
- 4.2 This transformational process is due to be completed by the MOJ in April 2020. During the transition period the MOJ will be moving to new managerial structures within the HMPPS with 10 new Probation Directors, one for each probation area, and 2 newly separated posts of a national Prison and national Probation director working to a newly appointed Prison and Probation service Chief Exec. This report provides further detail of the challenges which this change process presents.

5 Ongoing Work

- 5.1 Despite ongoing organisational difficulties, it is fair to say that individuals working for the CRC are passionate and determined. The OPCC continues to work closely with these colleagues in developing better processes of rehabilitation and therefore improved integration of offenders back into communities, keeping our public safer and feeling safer. In particular is the work around the female offender strand and the bespoke approach required to tailor the Home Office's female Offender strategy principals to suit the generic Improved Through the Gate strategy (ITTG). In addition, through chairing the LCJB, Mark holds all of the Criminal Justice partners to account, and the collective response continues to drive for better CJ outcomes for Victims, offenders and our communities.

6 Next Steps/Future Work

- 6.1 Mark and his team are working closely with colleagues across the Yorkshire and the Humber Region - and nationally as APCC chair - to positively influence the new Probation model moving forward. Positive and supportive relationships with the MOJ and NPS strategic leads are key, and this programme of work continues at a pace and will be the subject of a future update.