

Reducing Reoffending Board Note of Meeting

25th November 2020, 10:00-12:00

Teams Call

Attendees:

NPS
MPS
PHE
NHS
London Councils
LHOCS
HMCTS
HMP Wormwood Scrubs

HMPPS
DWP
Clinks
CPI
Pact
Advance
MOPAC

Apologies:

CRC
HMP Isis

MOPAC welcomed the attendees to the RRB.

Actions from the previous meeting and progress made on discussions were covered.

1. Performance data and updates

Performance data

Crime levels are up on the last quarter, but still below the levels before lockdown. The exceptions are hate crime and VAWG offences which have been increasing and are a serious concern. There may be an impact on recorded reoffending rates.

The board agreed to bring a summary of what is already being done in the domestic abuse and safeguarding space to the next meeting and identify whether there are any further actions the Board can take.

2. Drugs in London

The Centre for Public Innovation updated partners on the progress of consultancy work on drugs, and the direction of travel.

This consultancy work follows on from the DIP review in March 2019. This review explored what a new pan-London approach for drug using offenders might look like and to understand how the recommendations from the previous review can be put into practice.

The second part of this work is looking at drug related crime such as violence, exploitation and drug markets.

The board actioned CPI/MOPAC to involve Directors of Public Health in implementing the consultancy recommendations.

Drugs in London will continue to be part of the agenda for the next Board meeting to discuss implementation in more detail.

3. Routes2Change

London Prison Group gave an overview of their Reducing Reoffending Strategy. There are 9 pathways for reducing reoffending, one of which is Children and Families, which Routes2Change falls under.

The Routes2Change programme is in partnership with Pact, HMPPS, Lambeth and MOPAC, and also now in discussion with NHSE London.

It is a 'family-first' and relationship-based partnership to reduce reoffending, to mitigate the impacts on child/family welfare, and to interrupt the inter-generational cycle of offending behaviour.

This programme is coming to the end of its 2-year proof of concept in HMP Brixton and has been confirmed for a further 3 years. There is also intention to expand to HMP Isis.

There are currently 30 families on the caseload, and the programme works with them for 6 months post-release.

4. Transitions and Young Adults

An update was given on the Transitions to Adulthood pilot. The NPS, MOPAC and MoJ are establishing a Transitions to Adulthood hub in one London borough for 18-25 year olds on probation who are assessed as having low levels of maturity and 17 year olds transitioning from YOS to adult probation.

The hub will co-locate probation staff and commissioned services. The pilot will launch in July 2021 and will run for two years. The pilot will include:

- Commissioned services to respond to the distinct needs of young adults in the criminal justice system. This will be informed by analysis of needs but is likely to include:

- Mental health;
 - Bereavement support;
 - Substance misuse;
 - Accommodation support;
 - Support for care-experienced individuals.
- Specialist training for all hub staff in maturity; trauma-informed responses; young adulthood life stage amongst others.
 - Maturity Assessments to inform service delivery. Each young adult will be assessed for maturity.

The pilot delivery model will co-locate staff in a hub which young adults would attend for appointments. However, it will also include a level of remote delivery of supervision, interventions and services where appropriate.

5. Probation Reform

Unification will be complete by June 2021. Once unified, processes will be reviewed over the next few years.

The dynamic framework is a purchasing system that will be used to procure offender support services as part of the new probation model.

The competition for female offender services in the new model from June 2021 will not happen for London due to an agreement for co-commissioning between MOPAC and MoJ that will allow the existing services to be extended for nine months from the start of the new model using combined funding. After this time a full competition will take place, with the intention that this will involve co-commissioning.

The Dynamic Framework will give opportunities to co-commission services in the future.

Service user input

A member of staff from Advance, who was once a service user, attended the board to tell her story and how the engagement with Advance Minerva WrapAround women's service changed her life.

"I was referred to the service by my probation officer after being involved with gang violence. I was a victim of a gang rape that then made me feel like I needed protection. Once, I joined the service, I received support for my wellbeing, PTSD and healthy relationships. With the help of Advance, I went on to graduate from university and am now a young person's key worker. A lot of workers at Advance have lived experience which supports women to open up. Early intervention is key."

"A really trauma informed key worker who didn't give up and was a role model to me alongside my probation officer. You're made to feel like you're lying or over exaggerating in the CJS process but key workers didn't make me feel like that and supported me."

An Advance member of staff, presented the board with another case study: *"I come through on a suspended sentence for selling drugs with my partner. I had drug addictions and had no resource to public funds. We had to give our child to social services as we couldn't give her the*

support she needed. I have now been sober for 9 months as well as my partner and have been engaging with counselling, managing my finances, minimizing my anxiety and depression. We are working to get our child back."

The board agreed to continue to hear user voice in these meetings.

Shared Needs Assessment

The first stage will focus on female offenders to inform the co-commissioning work.

The board was asked to think about what other data can feed into the shared needs assessment and contact MOPAC.

6. AOB and Close

A new governance structure is currently being developed, to increase clarity and reduce duplication in the LCRB and LCJB governance.

A decision on the new structure is to be made on the 7th December.

Next meeting: 4th March 2021