

North Yorkshire County Council**Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee****19 January 2015****Transforming Rehabilitation – changes to Probation Services****1 Purpose of the report**

- 1.1 To inform the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the changes to delivery of probation services under the Government's Transforming Rehabilitation agenda.

2 Background

- 2.1 During 2014, the implementation of the Government's Transforming Rehabilitation agenda brought the most significant changes to probation services since their inception more than 100 years ago, transforming the way in which offenders are managed in the community.
- 2.2 York and North Yorkshire Probation Trust, along with all 35 former Probation Trusts, ceased to exist with effect from 31 May 2014. The responsibility for assessment of offenders, management of high risk of harm offenders, delivery of sex offender treatment programmes and the delivery of services to victims, the Courts and the Parole Board transferred to the National Probation Service (NPS) on the 1st June 2014. Management of low to medium risk of harm offenders and the delivery of all interventions apart from sex offender treatment transferred to 21 Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCS).

3 New Organisations

- 3.1 The NPS sits as a directorate within the National Offender Management Service (NOMS), under the Ministry of Justice, and in England is divided into six divisions, each led by a Deputy Director. The York and North Yorkshire cluster, overseen by Head of Services Louise Johnson, sits within the North East Division. This is the largest division, stretching from the Wash to the Scottish border, and led by Lynda Marginson, a former Assistant Chief Officer of the York and North Yorkshire Probation Trust.
- 3.2 The CRCs within the North East have been divided into 5 Contract Package Areas, with York and North Yorkshire forming part of the Humberside, Lincolnshire and North Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company (HLNYCRC). The work covered by the CRCs has been subject to tender, and last month the Secretary of State for Justice confirmed that contracts had been signed with the new providers. Ownership of the HLNYCRC transfers on 1 February to Purple Futures.
- 3.3 Purple Futures is a partnership between Interserve and national voluntary sector organisations 3SC, Addaction, P3, and Shelter. Interserve is the majority

partner, and as an international company with a track record in delivering services to the public sector, will be responsible for overall service delivery. 3SC is a social enterprise formed by the third sector to build and manage voluntary community social enterprise (VCSE) supply chains nationally and locally. They work with local, community based charities to ensure local charities are properly represented in the supplier base. Addaction is a national charity specialising in preventing and treating addictions to alcohol and drugs. P3 is a national charity providing link worker and mentoring support to people with complex needs and chaotic lives, including low level mental health issues. Shelter will be familiar to you as the national housing charity, who also provide legal advice and finance, benefit and debt advice.

- 3.4 CRCs will be able to be innovative in designing and delivering rehabilitation services. They will be paid for managing the cases allocated to them, and a proportion of their payment will be dependent on their performance in reducing reoffending. Purple Futures will be providing a detailed briefing of its service on its website before service delivery commences in February.

4 Future Practice

- 4.1 Both the NPS and the CRCs remain fully committed to providing the highest standard of assessment and management of offenders, to protect the public, support victims and reduce reoffending. A number of new operating procedures have been introduced by the Ministry of Justice/National Offender Management Service to provide clarity of expectations for the two new organisations, support collaborative working and good practice.
- 4.2 2015 will also see the implementation of the Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014, which brings changes to the sentencing and release of offenders, including the introduction of supervision on release for offenders serving custodial sentences of less than 12 months. This will give CRCs the opportunity to engage with most prisoners before their release, so they can provide through the gate services. The new post-sentence supervision period tops up the licence period so that overall, every eligible offender will receive 12 months of supervision in the community after release. The purpose of the supervision period is the rehabilitation of the offender, and a range of requirements may be imposed on them, to support their move away from crime.
- 4.3 The Offender Rehabilitation Act also creates a new rehabilitation activity requirement (RAR) for offenders sentenced to community orders and suspended sentence orders. The Court will be able to impose a RAR for a certain number of days, and the Responsible Officer, who will be managing the offender under the NPS or CRC, will determine what activities should be undertaken under the RAR, informed by their assessment of risk and need. This flexibility will support the effective management of offenders, as issues related to offending do sometimes emerge, or circumstances change, during the post-sentence period. The Responsible Officer will be able to respond to any such developments by building appropriate interventions into the RAR.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 That the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the changes to delivery of probation services under the Government's Transforming Rehabilitation agenda.

Joanne Atkin
Area Manager, National Probation Service North Yorkshire

8 January 2015

Annexes:

Appendix 1: National Probation Service map

Appendix 2: Community Rehabilitation Companies: Geographical areas



National Probation Service Map

Appendix 1

National Probation Service map

Geographic Areas of the New Divisions



North West:
covering Merseyside; Cumbria; Lancashire; Cheshire; Greater Manchester.
Deputy Director: Roz Hamilton



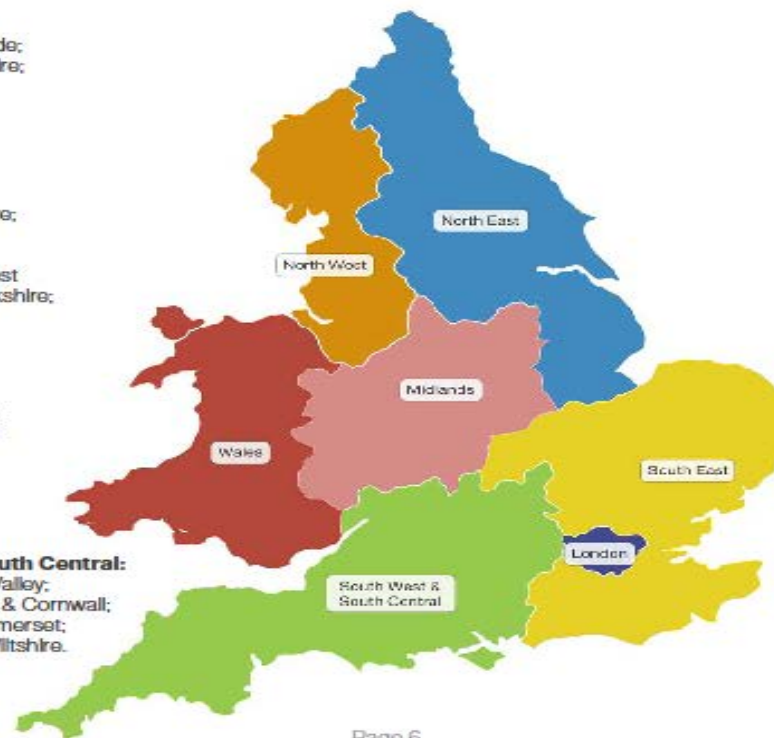
Midlands:
covering Derbyshire; Leicestershire; Nottinghamshire; Staffordshire & West Midlands; Warwickshire; West Mercia.
Deputy Director: Sarah Chand



Wales:
responsible for the National Probation Service in Wales.
Deputy Director: Ian Barrow



South West & South Central:
covering Thames Valley; Hampshire; Devon & Cornwall; Dorset; Avon & Somerset; Gloucestershire; Wiltshire.
Deputy Director: Angela Cossins



North East:
covering Northumbria; Durham Tees Valley; York and North Yorkshire; Humberside; West Yorkshire; Lincolnshire; South Yorkshire.
Deputy Director: Lynda Marginson



South East:
covering Kent; Surrey & Sussex; Bedfordshire; Cambridgeshire; Northamptonshire; Essex; Hertfordshire; Norfolk & Suffolk.
Deputy Director: Sonia Crozier



London
Deputy Director: Sara Robinson



Community Rehabilitation Companys CRC

(Geographical areas of 21 CRC's)

