

**Safer and Stronger Communities  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**4 January 2021**

**Probation Programme- 'plans for the  
future model'**



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**Report of John Hewitt, Corporate Director of Resources**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with background information in advance of a joint presentation on the proposed future model of probation services by representatives from Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and the National Probation Service (NPS).

**Executive summary**

- 2 The presentation attached in appendix 2 will aim to provide Members with an overview of the rationale, proposals and timeframe for a future model of probation services within England and Wales.

**Recommendation**

- 3 Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within this report and presentation and comment accordingly.

## **Background**

- 4 At its meeting in September 2020, the Committee agreed its work programme to include an item on probation services. Information within this presentation will build upon reports to the Committee from the NPS in September 2018 and CRC in November 2018.
- 5 The reports provided the Committee with detail of activity by the NPS and CRC in relation to service delivery, performance, achievements and proposals within the then government consultation 'Strengthening probation, building confidence'.
- 6 The outcome of the consultation led to an announcement by the government to replace the current system where probation services are delivered by a combination of the NPS (high risk offenders) and CRC (low and medium risk offenders) with one national probation service within 11 areas of England and Wales. This will include the introduction of 10 new probation areas in England with existing arrangements remaining unchanged in Wales and each area will have a Regional Director. County Durham is included within the North East area that covers the Police and Crime Commissioner areas of Durham, Cleveland and Northumberland.
- 7 John Graham, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Durham Tees Valley CRC and Kay Nicolson, Head of Area for Durham and Darlington Probation, NPS, are scheduled to be in attendance at the Committee's virtual meeting to deliver a joint presentation on activity of both the NPS and CRC within the past year and transition to future model of probation services within England and Wales. The presentation attached in Appendix 2 provides information on current structure and the rationale, proposals and timeframe for a future model of probation services.

## **Main implications**

### *Crime and Disorder*

- 8 Information with this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Safe Durham Partnership plan to reducing re-offending.

## **Conclusion**

- 9 The attached presentation provides an update and opportunity for Members to comment on progress on implementation of a future model of probation services and how this will impact County Durham.
- 10 Background papers
  - None

## Other useful documents

- Probation Services – Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, September 2018
- Probation Services – Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company, November 2018

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

None.

### **Finance**

None.

### **Consultation**

None.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

None.

### **Human Rights**

None.

### **Climate Change**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Information with this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Safe Durham Partnership plan to reducing crime and disorder.

### **Staffing**

None.

### **Accommodation**

None.

### **Risk**

None.

### **Procurement**

None.