

Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

15 February 2016



National Probation Service

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members of the Committee with information in advance of an overview presentation on the National Probation Service (NPS) from Maureen Gavin, Head of Durham NPS.

Background

2. At its meeting in September 2014, the Committee considered a presentation informing Members of the development of the National Probation Service following its inception in June 2014 as part of the Government's strategy for Transforming Rehabilitation..
3. The presentation highlighted that nationally Probation Trusts had been abolished and replaced by a NPS with 7 regional divisions and 21 Community Rehabilitation Companies(CRC), across England Wales. County Durham is included within the NPS North East Region office and the Durham Tees Valley CRC. In summary, the NPS are responsible for the management of high risk offenders released into the community and the CRC manage low and medium risk offenders.
4. The National Probation Service work in partnership with the CRCs, the courts, police and with private and voluntary sector partners in order to manage offenders safely and effectively. Their priority is to protect the public by the effective rehabilitation of high risk offenders, by tackling the causes of offending and enabling offenders to turn their lives around.
5. The presentation to the Committee will aim to provide an update on the work of the National Probation Service including development of its roles and responsibilities and its approach to managing high risk offenders within the county.

Recommendation

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

Background Papers

National Probation Service, Safer & Stronger Communities OSC, Sept 2014

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – Information within this report is linked to reducing reoffending within the Altogether Safer element of the Council Plan

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None