

Police and Crime Panel

8th March 2018

Reducing Reoffending

Report of the Office of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner



Purpose

1. To advise Police and Crime Panel Members that a presentation on Reducing Reoffending will be provided to members at the meeting on 8th March.

Background

2. Reducing Reoffending is an objective in the Police, Crime and Victims' Plan. It is also one of the key objectives in the Local Criminal Justice Plan for Durham and Cleveland which was published by the PCVC and the PCC for Cleveland in January.
3. Reducing Reoffending is the business of several agencies, including the Police, Youth Offending Services, Courts, Community Rehabilitation Company, National Probation Service, and Prisons. In addition, several of the services which help people to reduce their offending are delivered by other partners including the local authorities, for instance substance misuse treatment services, and housing support.
4. In 2017, the PCVC and PCC agreed to invest, along with partners, in a small collaborative team to deliver the Local Criminal Justice Programme, including enabling greater sharing of information in order to develop a comprehensive performance framework. The presentation you will receive will include data from a range of agencies.
5. Durham has been a leader nationally in innovative approaches to reducing reoffending. At the centre of this is a problem solving approach aimed at identifying the root causes of offending, and then working partnership to challenge and assist people to address those needs. A key part of this approach is Checkpoint, which is a diversion scheme started in early 2015 and enables people in certain circumstances to sign up to a four month contract with the police force, rather than face prosecution.
6. The Plan on a Page for Reducing Reoffending is attached at Appendix 2. A similar presentation was delivered to the County Durham Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20th February.

Recommendations

7. Panel Members are recommended to consider the information contained in the presentation, and comment accordingly.

Next Steps

8. The Local Criminal Justice Plan sets out a programme to develop services to reduce reoffending to 2021. Updates will continue to be delivered to the Panel.

Alan Reiss
Chief of Staff

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

None

Staffing

None

Equality and Diversity

None

Accommodation

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Children's Act 2004

None

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

Many stakeholders are partners in delivery of the work to reduce reoffending

Environment

None

Collaboration and Partnerships

None

Value for Money and Productivity

None

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

Supports delivery of the overall vision and of the objective to reduce reoffending

Commissioning

None

Other risks

None

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Cleveland & Durham Local Criminal Justice Partnership

County Durham, Darlington and Cleveland Reducing Re-offending Strategy on a Page (2016-2021)

Vision: Partners implement the most effective and efficient measures to ensure that adults and young people who offend are challenged and supported to desist from crime in order to improve life chances and keep communities safe.

Outcomes

Prevent Intergenerational Offending

Prevent Repeat Offending

System Goal

Deliver reducing reoffending services across County Durham, Darlington and Cleveland by developing a desistance and strengths based whole family approach

Objectives

Identify those at risk of offending and ensure appropriate support is in place to break the cycle of intergenerational offending

(Prevention)

Implement early intervention strategies with the aim to divert individuals from the Criminal Justice system and promote positive outcomes for victims

(Early intervention)

Ensure critical pathway evidence informs needs-based solutions using integrated offender management principles

(Targeted intervention)

What do we need to be good at? (Our Core Deliverables)

Effective Pathways

- Building our "Think Family" approach for offenders and their families
- Using and improving pathways to enable effective intervention throughout the criminal justice process including integrated offender management
- Understanding where gaps in service provision are, across the whole system, and working in partnership to fill them
- Develop an improved understanding of the needs profile of females who offend

Restorative Justice (RJ)

- Supporting the development and use of the RJ Hub
- Ensuring restorative approaches are used when working with people who offend
- Embedding the work of the RJ Hub among partner agencies
- Engaging with volunteers where appropriate and developing their skills
- Developing and promoting victim involvement within restorative practice

Use and completion of sentences / orders

- Using full range of diversion and sentencing powers
- Rehabilitative and safe use of custody / prison
- Raising awareness of the links between re-offending and sentencing
- Ensuring those offenders posing highest risk to the community are within scope of IOM arrangements
- Working in partnership to deliver range of desistance provision for offenders and families

What will help us achieve our objectives? (Enabling Factors)

Communication

- Improved and clear communication with internal / external partners and the community to be able to respond appropriately
- Aligned community priorities to strategic needs
- Promoting successes in reducing re-offending in order to increase public confidence
- Ensuring effective information sharing protocols

Performance Management

- Performance framework to enable monitoring against outcomes, targets and delivery plan
- Improved timeliness of re-offending data
- Enhanced analysis of data to improve performance by drilling down to identify issues
- Comprehensive data sharing among partners

Knowledge and skills

- The whole workforce are aware of partner agency roles and priorities
- Partner agency skills and knowledge are utilised
- Understanding how different pathways and RJ impact on offending
- Understanding partner agency roles and impact they have on reducing re-offending