Jeremy Wright MP

Minister for Prisons and Probation

Ministry of Justice

102 Petty France

London

SW1H 9AJ

4 February 2014

Dear Jeremy

**Transforming Rehabilitation: application of Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012**

I am writing to ask you to confirm whether your Department complied with the requirements of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 in the commissioning and procurement process for the Community Rehabilitation Companies, as part of your Transforming Rehabilitation reforms?

As you will be aware, the Act sets out that, you, as the commissioning authority must have considered, at the pre-procurement stage:

1. how what is proposed to be procured might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the relevant area, and
2. how, in conducting the process of procurement, it might act with a view to securing that improvement

The Act also required you to consider whether to undertake any consultation with relevant stakeholders in relation to the provisions of the Act. My re-reading of your Transforming Rehabilitation consultation paper (CP1/2013) reveals no apparent reference to the Public Services (Social Value) Act. I would therefore be grateful if you could also confirm what considerations your Department undertook in respect of consulting stakeholders on the provisions of the Act?

You will be aware that the period in which you were required to apply the terms of the Act ended on 19 September 2013, with your publication of the advertisement for the contracts to run the 21 Community Rehabilitation Companies.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



Ben Priestley

National Officer

UNISON Police and Justice

cc Ian Lawrence, General Secretary, Napo

David Walton, GMB/SCOOP