



Rehabilitation Bulletin

Transforming Rehabilitation – a revolution in the way we deal with offenders

April 2013

Introduction:

Welcome to the second edition of the Rehabilitation Bulletin.

We hope that Probation staff found the first issue useful and I would like to thank Probation Chairs and Chief Executives for feeding back comments on how we can improve the dissemination and content of the Bulletin.

We have received a number of questions via the mailbox managed by the Probation Association. Responses have been published on the Probation Association members' forum. We have not been able to provide a comprehensive response to all questions as they will be addressed in the Government's response to the consultation paper. However we will use these questions to shape the information we provide when the response paper has been published.

The Government's response to the consultation will be published soon and we expect these monthly Bulletins to grow as we set out developments.

Ian Poree

Director of Rehabilitation Programme

Summary of key Updates:

Update one: Message from Antonia Romeo, Senior Responsible Officer for the Rehabilitation Programme

Update two: Probation Trust visits

Ursula Brennan, Permanent Secretary and Antonia Romeo, Director General Transforming Justice, have been visiting Probation Trusts.

Update three: Probation engagement hubs

The Rehabilitation Programme Probation Team is visiting every Probation Trust carrying out engagement hubs and landscape assessments.

Update four: Launch of Justice Data Lab

The Ministry of Justice launched the Justice Data Lab on 2 April 2013.

Update five: Strategic Priorities for Female Offenders

The Ministry of Justice published the Strategic Priorities for Female Offenders on 22 March 2013.



Update one: Message from Antonia Romeo, Senior Responsible Officer for the Rehabilitation Programme

I am responsible for oversight and effective delivery of the Rehabilitation programme. This means it is my role to ensure that the whole system design is deliverable and meets the Secretary of State's reform objective, and that these reforms are effective in delivering the benefits in terms of reduced reoffending.

During the consultation period I attended a number of events and heard from experts across the system on how the reforms might best be taken forward to help reduce reoffending. My team are looking carefully at the formal consultation responses so that we take full account of views in model development. We will be publishing the Government's response shortly.

I have already visited several Probation Trusts and will continue these visits to learn more about local implications of the proposed changes. For example, during my visit to Leicestershire and Rutland Probation Trust I was particularly impressed with the work the Trust is doing on the REACH project – an innovative approach to assisting offenders in to sustainable employment. This was an excellent opportunity to see the essential work probation staff do to protect the public.

I look forward to meeting more Probation staff on my future visits. If you have questions relating to the Programme, you can ask questions via the Probation Association. Questions are being collated by Trusts and sent on to my team for action. Contact Mike Caldwell at PA for further information I hope you find this monthly bulletin helpful.

Antonia Romeo, Director General for Transforming Justice

Update two: Probation Trust visits

Ursula Brennan, Permanent Secretary and Antonia Romeo, Director General for Transforming Justice, have been visiting Probation Trusts over the past couple of weeks. Visits have been made to Hampshire, London, Leicestershire and Rutland, Warwickshire, and Wiltshire and Gloucestershire. The visits have been extremely useful and there are plans to set up more over the coming months.

The visits have been an opportunity for Ursula and Antonia to speak to Probation staff about the impact of the Rehabilitation Programme reforms and to see any local specialist services. They have also been an opportunity for Probation staff to put their questions directly to senior Ministry of Justice officials, responsible for overseeing the Rehabilitation Programme.

Update three: Probation engagement hubs

Mike Maiden, Andrew Dawson and members of Mike's team have been running a series of Hub Engagement meetings with senior Probation staff across the country over the past couple of weeks. Representatives from all 35 Trust's attended the meetings to begin discussions on engaging with change.

In addition to this, early work on establishing a landscape assessment proforma and approach was conducted in Wales and Manchester. The purpose of this work is to help the programme team understand the local landscape which can feed into the design of the operating model. Dates have also been arranged with the remaining 33 trusts for the team to carry out landscape assessments in their area during April and May.

Update four: Launch of Justice Data Lab

The Ministry of Justice launched the Justice Data Lab on 2 April 2013. Organisations working with offenders, can now access re-offending data through the [Justice Data Lab](#).

This data will provide vital information to organisations supporting the rehabilitation of offenders and will allow them to better understand the impact of their work and design more effective interventions to stop people returning to a life of crime. To use the service, organisations will need to supply the justice data lab with details of the offenders who they have worked with and information about the services they have provided. The Justice Data Lab will then supply aggregate one-year proven re-offending rates for that group, and that of a matched control group of similar offenders. The results will be provided to the organisation in a clear and easy to understand format, with explanations of the key metrics, and any caveats and limitations necessary for interpretation of the results.

Update five: Strategic Priorities for Female Offenders

On 22 March, the Ministry of Justice published the '**Strategic Priorities for Female Offenders**'. The priorities sit alongside our Transforming Rehabilitation proposals, bring together the best of the voluntary, public and private sector to tackle the causes of reoffending.

The four priorities are:

1. Ensuring the provision of credible, robust sentencing options in the community that will enable female offenders to be punished and rehabilitated in the community where appropriate.
2. Ensuring the provision of services in the community that recognise and address the specific needs of female offenders, where these are different from those of male offenders.
3. Tailoring the women's custodial estate and regimes so that they reform and rehabilitate offenders effectively, punish properly, protect the public fully, and meet gender specific standards, and locate women in prisons as near to their families as possible; and
4. Through the transforming rehabilitation programme, supporting better life management by female offenders ensuring all criminal justice system partners work together to enable women to stop reoffending.

Further Information

The dedicated Programme page is available: [Rehabilitation Programme](#) ➔