

## Yorkshire & Humberside

### Reducing Re-offending Action Plan Refresh November 2006 - February 2007

#### Questions for Consultation - Response Form

Responses to this consultation exercise will be used by the Reducing Re-offending Team to assist writing the refreshed Reducing Re-offending Action Plan which we will publish in April 2007. They will also be used by the Regional Offender Manager to further inform his commissioning priorities for next year.

In line with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, all information contained in the response including personal information may be subject to publication or disclosure.

**Thank you for taking the time to respond to this consultation.** The attached proforma lists the questions from the consultation document for ease of reference.

Please feel free to answer questions that are relevant to you and your organisation. You do not have to answer all questions - unless you wish to do so! Some of the questions are for Service Users - **offenders and their families**. It would be appreciated where possible if you could ask your service users to answer these questions.

The completed proforma and other responses should be sent to the address below by **7<sup>th</sup> February 2007**.

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If you have any queries, please contact the Reducing Re-offending Team on **01924 882409**

## Cross-cutting Questions:

1a. Are the priorities identified in this document the right ones?

1b. How can delivery of these priorities be enabled?

1c. Do the priorities adequately address the requirement to protect the public from harm? How can this best be achieved?

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1d. Do the priorities adequately address the need to reduce re-offending by a diverse offender group?

1e. What do you regard as the top 5 priorities in rank order?

**Accommodation Pathway:**

2a. Are the priorities identified the right ones?

2b. How can you/your organisation assist in achieving the objectives within the accommodation pathway?

2c. How can homelessness prevention work be better co-ordinated?

2d. How can accommodation and housing advice services be made more accessible and relevant to different offender groups e.g. BME and women offenders?

**Accommodation: Consultation with offenders**

2e. What help do you need to get suitable accommodation?

2f. What support do you need to hold on to a tenancy?

## Education, Training & Employment Pathway:

3a. Are the priorities identified the right ones?

3b. How can your organisation assist in achieving the objectives within the ETE Pathway?

3c. How can we promote employers' 'sign up' to the Corporate Alliance?

3d. What type of support should be provided to employers who are willing to take on ex-offenders?

3e. How can employers be supported to meet the requirements of race, disability and gender legislation in employing offenders?

**ETE: Consultation with offenders**

**3f.** What are the main barriers to finding and keeping a job?

**3g.** What help do you need to get the right skills for employment?

## Drugs & Alcohol Pathway:

- 4a. Have the right priorities been set and the right priority areas identified for improving services for substance misusing offenders in the region?

- 4b. How can more service users be encouraged to engage with treatment and to remain in treatment for longer?

- 4c. How can we increase the engagement for BME substance misusers in treatment programmes?

- 4d. How can we best quantify the links between Alcohol Misuse and re-offending and then identify and map service provision and gaps to meet identified needs?

## Drugs & Alcohol: Consultation with Offenders

- 4e. Do you think that these priorities are the right ones to improve service delivery?

**4f.** Are there any other priorities which you think should be added?

## **Mental & Physical Health Pathway:**

**5a.** Are the priorities identified the right ones?

**5b.** How can you/your organisation assist in achieving the objectives within the Mental and Physical Health pathway?

**5c.** How can the Health and Social Care of Offenders receive a greater emphasis on the overall health agenda?

## **Mental & Physical Health: Consultation with Offenders**

**5d.** Do you think these priorities are the right ones to improve access to mental and physical health services for offenders?

**5e.** Are there any other priorities you think should be added to make it easier for offenders to access health services?

## Children & Families of Offenders' Pathway: (General)

- 6a. Have we set the right priorities to ensure families are engaged to reduce re-offending? Specifically is it right to prioritise an increase family involvement in the sentence and resettlement planning for offenders aged 18 - 21?

- 6b. If you could see one pan-region development that would improve support for this group, what would it be?

- 6c. Are there key groups of offenders which would benefit from family engagement (for example 18-21yr olds, BME groups)?

- 6d. Are there specific training needs for staff working with offenders to encourage the engagement of an offenders children and their families? If so how is this need best met?

- 6e. Should we expand services within visitors centres? Is clustering services at the gate for offenders children and families more effective and accessible for this group than offering them in the community?

**Children & Families Pathway: Consultation with children and families of Offenders'**

**6f.** Would you be willing to engage in and could you engage in the sentence planning and resettlement planning with your family member in custody/in the community?

**6g.** Would you find it helpful to be informed first hand of your family members licence conditions/ bail conditions/terms of community sentence?

**6h.** Are you able to maintain contact with your family member in custody as much as you would like to? If not what problems do you have maintaining contact?

**6i.** Have you used a visitors centre at a prison? Do you find the services on offer useful or would you rather access these services within your home area? Would it be useful to have in the visitors centre if so what other services?

**Children & Families: Consultation with Offenders**

**6j.** Would you like key family members to be more aware of what you are doing with probation and within prison? If so what would you like them to be aware of?

**6k.** Would you like key family members to be part of your sentence planning and resettlement planning meetings? If so why?

**6l.** In custody do you maintain contact with your family as much as you would like to? What problems do you have in keeping contact with your family?

**6m.** Are there any services that you receive within custody that you would like your family to be present for? For example, finance, benefit and debt advice?

## Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour Pathway:

7a. Would you agree with these priorities or do you have any other suggestions?

7b. The Attitudes, Thinking and Behaviour Pathway currently has representatives from the Probation, Prison service and Contracted Out Prisons around the table. Is this too narrow a representation? If so, who else could appropriately be included?

7c. How can diversity be mainstreamed in the delivery of existing programmes and development of short term interventions?

7d. What would you identify as the priority areas for developing short term interventions / specified activities as a response to unmet need?

## Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour: Consultation with Offenders

7e. What new short term programmes or activities should be developed?

**7f.** What would make the programmes that run in prisons or in probation work better? What stops people getting on or finishing a programme?

**7g.** If someone does a programme in prison, how can we help them to practice the skills learnt when on licence after release?

**7h.** Would programmes work better if a family member or close friend was involved in the planning and trying out new ways of behaving?

## Finance, Benefit & Debt Pathway:

8a. Have the right objectives set and are they in the right priority order?

8b. How can we give advice to offenders and their family together? Is this important?

8c. What are the barriers to accessing advice where it exists for offenders (in the community and in custody) and their families?

8d. What kind of support or interventions would you like to see provided to offenders in custody and the community to help address their financial problems?

8e. What is the most critical point for an offender in custody to receive advice which has the most impact upon their financial stability upon release?

- 8f.** Are there specific groups which would benefit most from a face to face independent advice service? For example, prisoners on remand, women, men, young offenders? For which group would such a service have the largest impact in reducing re-offending?

**Finance, Benefit & Debt: Consultation with Offenders**

- 8g.** Have the right objectives been set and are they in the right priority order?

- 8h.** Are there other methods of gaining advice that you would access other than a face to face service? For example; internet, kiosks?

- 8i.** Would it be better to receive finance/ benefit and debt advice with your key family member(s) present?

- 8j.** What are the barriers to accessing advice where it exists in the community and in custody?

## **Prolific & Priority Offenders Pathway:**

**9a.** Are the priorities identified the right ones?

**9b.** How can you/your organisation assist in achieving the objectives within the PPO pathway?

**9c.** Other than financial support, what incentives can be offered to organisations to support the prioritisation of PPO's for services?

**9d.** How can the premium service for PPO's be designed to meet the specific needs of different offender groups e.g. BME and women?

### **PPO: Consultation with Offenders**

**9e.** What additional support do you need to stop offending?

## Voluntary & Community Sector Pathway:

10a. Are the priorities identified the right ones?

10b. How can you/your organisation assist in achieving the objectives within the VCS pathway?

10c. How can we ensure that commissioning is accessible to VCS providers?

10d. How can tendering processes be made more user-friendly, and how can NOMS encourage the involvement of smaller organisations?

10e. How could a neutral bidding group operate?

**10f.** What support is needed to encourage the development of VCS-led bidding partnerships?

**10g.** How can VCS organisations be helped to identify and bid for funding outside of NOMS?

**10h.** How best can NOMS develop service user engagement and what should quality standards contain?

**10i.** What can be done to promote the participation of BME led VCS organisations?

**10j.** How can VCS organisations help to address inequality and promote diversity?

**VCS: Consultation with Offenders**

**10k.** Please give us your views about services provided by voluntary sector organisations. In particular, how do these services differ from those provided directly by prisons or probation?

**10l.** What do you think should be done to ensure that voluntary and community sector organisations are able to play a part in helping people to stop offending?

Many thanks for your response.

Any further comments:

## List of Stakeholders Consulted

BME Panel	
Children & Families of Offenders	
Community Safety Managers	
Court Services	
Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships	
Department for Education and Skills	
Department of Health	
Drug and Alcohol Action Team Co-ordinators	
Drugs Intervention Programme Co-ordinators	
Employers	
Government Office Y&H	
HMP Area Office	
Housing Associations	
Jobcentre Plus	
Learning and Skills Council	
Local Authorities Chief Executives	
Local Criminal Justice Boards	
Offenders	
Pathway Action Team Members	
Police	
Primary Care Trusts	
Prison Governors & Staff	
Private Sector Landlords	
Probation	
Prolific and other Priority Offender Panels	
Reducing Re-offending Board & Exec	
Regional Assembly	
Regional Forum	
Strategic Health Authorities	
VCS	
Y&H Faiths forum	

Please contact us if you think that there are other stakeholder groups not on this list who may wish to contribute.